

Animal Science

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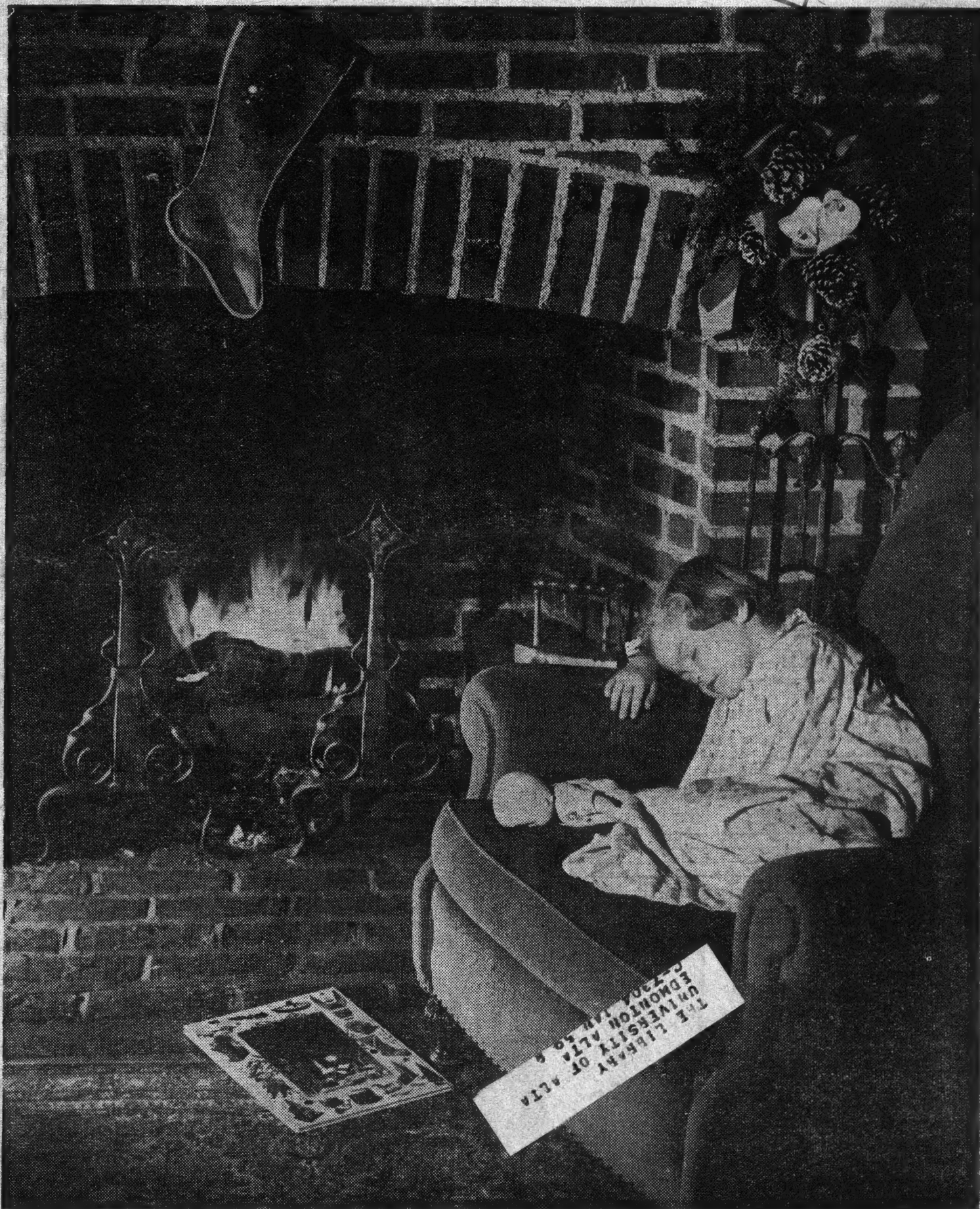
APPLIED SCIENCE READING ROOM

Farm and Ranch Review

VOLUME LIII
NUMBER 12.

CALGARY, ALBERTA
DECEMBER, 1957

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Season's Greetings . . .
The delegates, directors and management of the Alberta Wheat Pool, extends to all sincerest wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Alberta Wheat Pool's Record of Progress

REVIEW OF OPERATIONS FOR THE YEAR ENDING
JULY 31, 1957

ELEVATOR OPERATING RESULTS—

Gross operating earnings for season 1956-57	\$3,313,876
Less: Depreciation on Buildings and Equipment	2,020,861
Net earnings	\$1,292,815

ELEVATOR OPERATIONS—

Operated 533 country elevators and terminal at Vancouver. Port Arthur terminal was operated under agreement with Manitoba Pool Elevators.

GRAIN HANDLINGS—

Handled 61,457,190 bushels of grain received from producers compared with 54,220,106 bushels in the previous year. This represents approximately 37 per cent of the total grain marketed through country elevators in the province of Alberta in 1956-57.

RESERVE PURCHASES—

Completed purchases in full from estates of deceased members, members who have ceased farming and members 75 years of age or over. These purchases totalled \$394,455.

PATRONAGE DIVIDENDS—

Distributed \$746,501 as patronage dividends for the year 1955-56 involving a cash distribution of \$331,772 and reserve credits of \$414,729.

STORAGE FACILITIES—

Increased available storage space in country elevators by over three-quarters of a million bushels.

NEW MEMBERS—

During the year 1,818 new members joined the Alberta Wheat Pool, bringing the total to 48,589.

JUNIOR 4-H CLUBS—

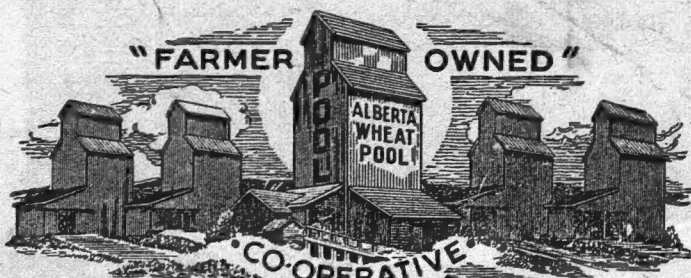
Sponsored 46 Junior Wheat Clubs having a total membership of 632 and 59 Girls' Garden Clubs with a membership of 622. These are under the direction of the Alberta Department of Agriculture.

FINANCIAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS FROM EARNINGS, 1923 to 1957—

Cash patronage dividends	\$ 7,611,872
Reserve purchases	10,734,248
1929 overpayment paid in full	5,649,000
Interest on 1929 overpayment	3,332,924
Income taxes paid	1,976,920
Investment in fixed assets	\$24,401,687
Less: Reserves originally contributed by members	8,467,830 15,933,857
Acquired working capital	8,998,392
	\$54,237,213

PATRONAGE DIVIDENDS—

In addition to cash payments of \$7,611,872, member patrons have received up to and including 1955-56, \$12,266,419 in Reserve Credits, making a total distribution of \$19,878,291 as patronage dividends out of earnings.



"IT'S ALBERTA POOL ELEVATORS FOR ALBERTA FARMERS"

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because . . .

A live-weight price can only be based on average or lower quality of poultry because fleshing and finish cannot be accurately determined until the feathers are off and the bird chilled in a low temperature room.

Producers are vitally interested in raising and feeding and marketing their poultry at a price that will show some profit over cost of production. This can only be done by the marketing of well-fleshed and properly-finished poultry at the proper time and payment should not be accepted then on weight only, but at dressed grade at the highest price for its grade.

remember . . .

Only on dressed (Rail) grade you receive highest prices for your poultry which qualifies for the higher grades at the C. A. D. Pool plants.

enquire . . .

at the nearest branch of the C. A. D. Pool for buying dates and prices.

a final word . . .

Do not market Turkeys until they carry good flesh and fat, irrespective of their weight or size.

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New Year to all
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of the
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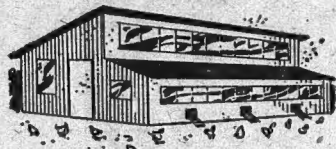
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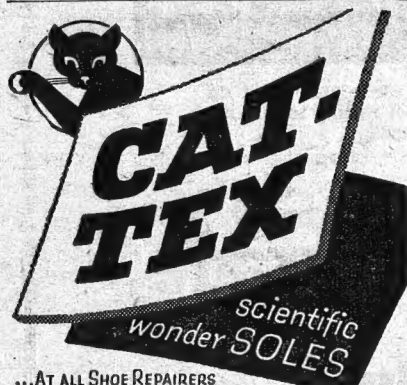
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Farm and Ranch Review

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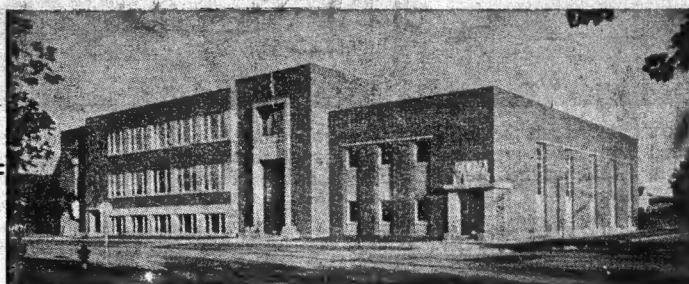
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No. 12

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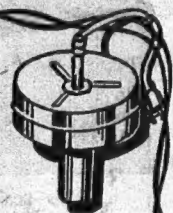
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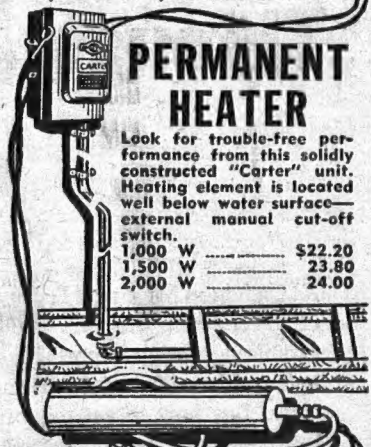
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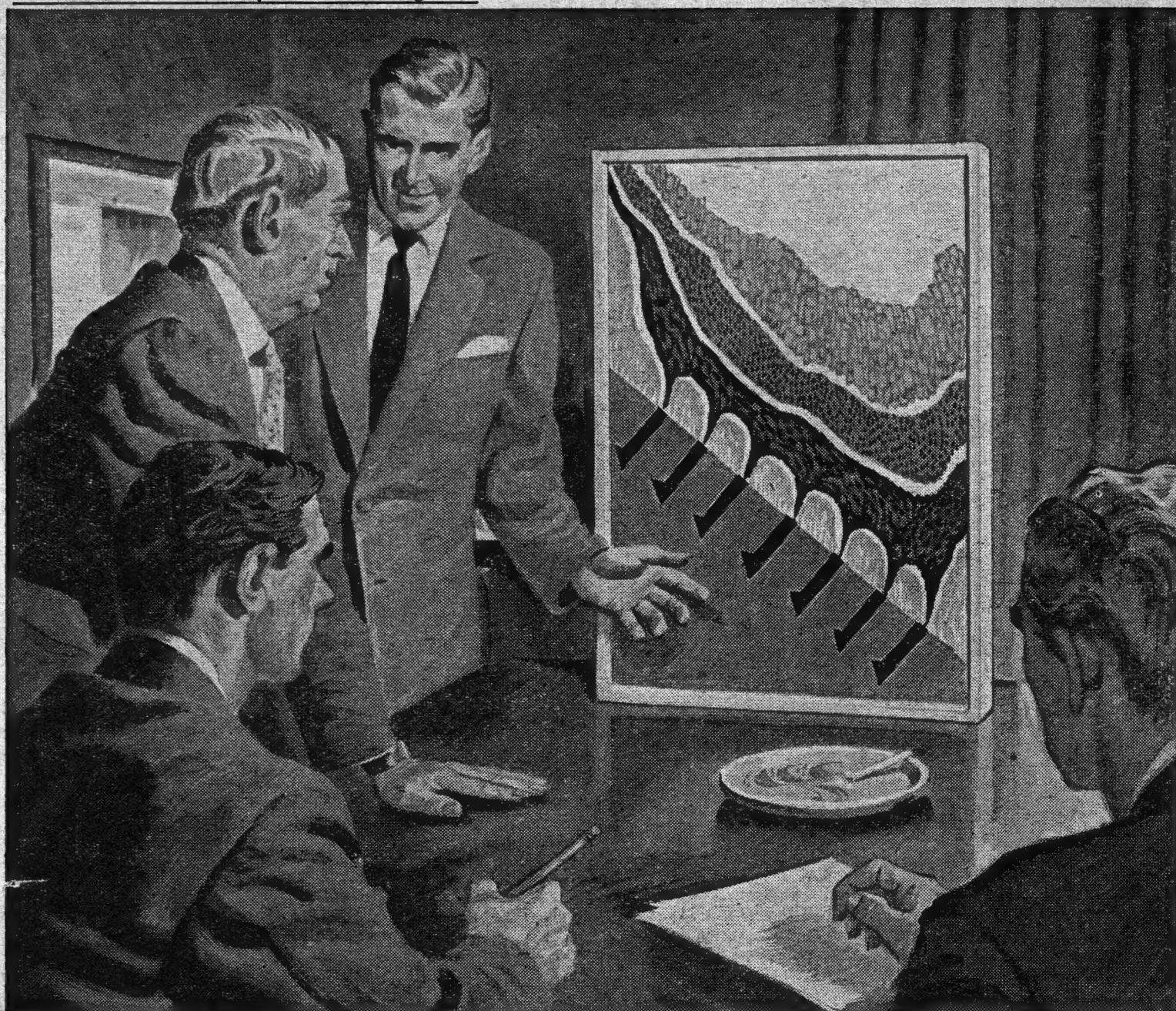
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Inco Research helps Canada grow



This scale model of an orebody at Inco's Creighton Mine is made of layers of coloured sand and gravel. The dark layer near the bottom

represents the higher grade ore; above are layers of lower grade ore and waste rock containing little or no ore. By shifting the flow of these

sands, Inco was able to study and adapt an unusual method of low cost mining to this ore, making its recovery economical.

Through **Inco Research** lower grade ores are mined economically

At Creighton Mine near Sudbury a large body of lower grade ore was known to exist. It promised to be an important source of nickel and copper—if it could be mined economically. But how to get this ore out at a cost low enough to be commercially practical?

Intensive study went into the problem. Underground tests were made. Observing that the earth above the mined-out orebodies had begun to settle, Inco mining engineers suggested the possibility of mining the lower grade ore by induced settling. Ore would be cut away from the

underside of the orebody. As the support for the ore and rock above was removed, the mass would begin to settle causing the ore to break up so that it could be drawn off and recovered. The idea sounded good.

Scale models were built to determine how the ore could be drawn off from below without getting the waste rock above the ore. Then the method was tried in the mine. The results were so promising that regular mining operations were begun. Today, Creighton Mine is producing 12,000 tons of this lower grade ore daily. And Inco Research did it!

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Editorials...

A dangerous infection

No quarantine for the farm crisis . . . unless cured, it will infect the whole nation

DOCTORS of medicine say that Asian flu may be cured with a little penicillin and plenty of rest.

Unfortunately, doctors of economics say that the cure for Canada's sick farm economy is not so simple . . . and the illness is spreading. The first casual diagnosis would suggest that it is a simple case of congestion, caused by overloading grain elevators and glutting world markets. But a closer examination of the patient shows that it has been more seriously hurt by the cost-price squeeze, and only an assortment of economic medicines, and a period of convalescence will help the patient survive. Even more serious — the agricultural illness is highly contagious and can not be put in quarantine.

Here is the question! In this period of national growth and industrial prosperity, can this country remain healthy in the midst of an epidemic which has some 150,000 small businesses on the verge of bankruptcy? That is the position of thousands of prairie farms that are running without the cash that is essential to carry on any business in our modern society.

Of course, the agricultural industry doesn't just collapse and fade away as might many another industry. The patient is actually almost immortal, and can struggle along near death indefinitely. After all, you can't eat pulp and paper, automobiles and TV sets, nor can you drink oil or natural gas, so farming just has to survive. The way it does survive is by thousands of farm families simply taking another notch in their belts and trying to hold on, while enduring the lowest standard of living in the country.

Although all of Canada's farmers are suffering from the spread between the cost of the things they must buy and the price they receive for their goods, certainly the prairie farmer is in the most immediate difficulty. Fortunately the Wheat Board is still making sales abroad to keep some cash coming in, but contrary to widespread Eastern belief that all Western farms are big and rich, the great bulk of Western farms are small family operations. Agriculture Minister Harkness told Parliament that of the quarter-million-odd grain delivery permits holders, more than two-thirds — or about 145,000 own less than 300 acres of cultivated land. This means that the plan to advance cash for farm-stored grain is not the powerful shot-in-the-arm that some people think.

Only some 51,000 prairie farmers could receive a possible maximum advance of 600 to 900 dollars, which comes to between 50

and 75 dollars a month for the season's operation. These farms are better off than most. Another 63,000 could receive no more than 25 to 50 dollars a month as an advance for their year's operation, and still another 31,000 farmers could not receive over 300 dollars or the equivalent of 25 dollars a month to help defray the year's expenses.

Not by any stretch of the imagination could this be considered enough cash to pour life into any business operation that has been going further into debt and nearer death for the past several years.

Canada — nor any other nation for that matter — can not remain healthy with some 150,000 small businesses on the verge of bankruptcy.

Financial box score

For your 18-pound Christmas turkey:

The farmer's cost of production is:—

Feed and supplements	\$3.25
The young bird, freight, pick-up and delivery, normal mortality	\$1.25
Drugs and medicines, chemicals for disease and lice control	
brooder heating	\$.60 \$5.10

The farmer is paid on the market \$4.95

On every turkey the farmer loses \$.35

This loss doesn't even take into account the added costs of labor, buildings, brooders, watering, feeding and spraying equipment . . . nor taxes. The farmer is working for nothing. The only reason he is in the business is to get rid of his grain.

Who says there's no Santa Claus . . . He's the farmer!

Credit is due

FARM credit is like rain. If it doesn't fall when and where you want it, then it doesn't do any good.

The Canadian Federation of Agriculture has recognized this principle in its official policy regarding farm loans. Most of the common sources of credit fail to recognize the peculiar nature of agriculture as a business, and that any credit plan must be tailored specifically for farmers.

The young man entering farming needs a good deal of capital and he will continue to use credit throughout his life. Generally

speaking, farmers need loans of all types, intermediate and short — and in considerable quantity. The periodic necessity of refinancing and the extreme fluctuations of income demand that the business side of farming be based on the long pull. Unlike many other industries, farm capital does not depreciate; the land is passed on and the livestock reproduces itself. Both, therefore, are fairly long-term investments.

The Federation of Agriculture is doing a service to itself and the credit agencies in emphasizing the peculiar circumstances of agriculture and its peculiar demands. The Federation is not asking for a handout. It just makes some sensible business suggestions that could benefit all concerned.

Speaking of bugs...

WHEN two Greeks meet they talk about opening a restaurant, but if they happen to be Greek entomologists they probably talk about bugs . . . and it still sounds like Greek.

This was borne out in Lethbridge recently when entomologists from across the continent spent several days on the subject, and were far from talked out when it came time to go home. At the meeting of the Canadian Entomological Society, specialists in a great many narrow fields presented learned papers on their pet insects in terms which were often Greek to other specialists working with other insects. But they traded research tricks which will help them sharpen their weapons in the constant war on insects.

Entomologists are a breed of their own, as any person who doesn't like bugs — which is most of us — can well imagine. Yet if one becomes addicted to this often fascinating science, the sky is the limit for original and productive research in the Nation's Science Service Labs. Freedom from compulsion in their daily work is a necessary condition to their success. Fundamental science is a labor of love and any attempt to force scientists into a mould they don't fit runs the risk of drying up their inspiration and independent thought.

As their expenses — which are considerable — are met from the public treasury just like any other branch of the civil service, it would be sheer folly to suggest that other branches of government also operate with a minimum of control and direction. As we said, entomologists are different . . . they actually pay their own way. Their success is measured not by what they make, but rather, by what they save. These highly trained men every now and then are able to follow up a small clue on a tiny insect pest, which ultimately leads to saving this country millions and millions of dollars every year.

By helping to beat the sawfly, they have already paid their bills many times over. And in the long run, it's the farmer who profits.

A Merry Christmas to All

No monopoly on brains

WHEN a space rocket blasts off its launching pad and roars skyward, it raises quite a cloud of dust.

The launching of Russia's first rocket that gave birth in space to "Sputnik" was no exception . . . but it appears that the dust it raised in Russia settled more quickly than the dust it raised in the United States.

After the first shocked silence that followed the launching, U.S. scientists (and politicians) groped blindly through their sound barrier and came up with mixed explanations of how the Russians got there first. In the weeks that followed, the official and unofficial statements settled down to more steady patterns . . . first the denial that it was more than "a silly bauble" . . . then the excited finger pointing in all directions to find the scapegoats . . . and finally the carefully worked out and documented explanations that even though the Russians did manage to shoot up a harmless little moon into space, United States scientists were actually far ahead of their Russian counterparts in the rocket developments that really count.

Of course "Sputnik the second" muffled this talk. But in the meantime, the U.S. took out some insurance they should have taken out long ago. They finally decided to co-operate with their Western Allies by sharing their atomic secrets for the common gain. This should have been done years ago, for the allies have great reserves of scientific brains but limited funds, and have been wasting these resources in solving parallel problems instead of co-operating in a common aim.

The United States certainly has the wealth to support these scientific ventures which could well bankrupt a smaller nation, but the United States has made a most serious mistake in ever thinking it has a monopoly on brains. Americans, who as a nation are not exactly respected for their modesty, might do well to look at their scientific shortcomings in this particular light.

The famous Nobel prizes, five of which are awarded yearly, are the outstanding international awards for global achievements in science. While perhaps not the ideal yardstick, a comparison of national awards may nevertheless be significant.

Since the awards were created at about the turn of the century (and up to 1955), the United States with a population of 151 millions has won 42 Nobel prizes. But praiseworthy as this may be, it is far short of the German achievement of 43 awards with less than half the population to win them. In fact, if Germany's population was the same as the U.S., Germany's awards would be the equivalent of 92 Nobel prizes. On top of this, Hitler's scientists who produced the V-2's of World War Two were forbidden to accept any awards after the year 1937.

England's record (England alone, not Great Britain) based on a comparable population with the U.S. is the equivalent of 129 Nobel prizes, which is also far ahead of the U.S.'s 42 awards. England has won 34 with a population of only 42 million.

Nor does the comparison end there, for many of the smaller Western Allies are able to refute any slogan that "if it's the biggest,

it's necessarily the best". The Dutch with a population of 10 million have won 15 awards, or the equivalent of 135 Nobel prizes on the U.S. population scale. Even little Denmark, better known for bacon and cheese than jazz and automobiles, has produced scientists with talent enough to bring 5 awards home to their 4 million population . . . again on the basis of U.S. population, the equivalent of 189 awards as compared with the U.S.'s 42 Nobel prizes.

The United States is still the single great champion of the free world, but her millions of allies around the world might sleep a little sounder at night if she would just stop talking for a while and do some listening to her older — and in some ways better — friends.

Farmers are human

AMONG the growing assortment of "experts" that are currently giving the farmer advice on how to run his affairs, is one that is turned out on a university assembly line and could be described as a sort of mechanical brain . . . he can think, but he has no heart.

For lack of any other classification, he is generally lumped with the economists.

This type of expert — often quite unfamiliar with actual farming operations — generally tries to beat the farm problem to death with a slide-rule or smother it to death in statistics. One of their favourite catch-phrases is that farming is a straight business and all farms should be immediately boosted in size to a more profitable economic unit. They admit that many farmers apparently are happy with their way of life, but they point their fingers in scorn.

They forget the human side of the question; that those who wish to expand need the help of a banker more than the advice of an economist; that many people are completely happy on their "inefficient" small farm; and that there is perhaps more to living than just being a big and efficient businessman by the standard of economists. The small farm should no more be squeezed out and gobbled up by the bigger farm, than the thousands of corner grocers should be put out of business by the efficient supermarket. The small farmer and the corner grocer serve a useful purpose both to themselves and their communities. Most have neither the instincts nor the abilities to become leaders in their industry, any more than every city clerk or workman rises to become a big executive. After all, farmers are just people and not numbers. They'll expand as the law of supply and demand permits.

If farmers were getting any where near a fair shake on the market, many of these smaller farms could qualify as an economic unit, without turning the family farm into a corporation. Nor let it be said that this would be subsidizing the little man on the inefficient farm. It is the little farmer in his thousands that has produced the surplus wheat and is presently subsidizing the rest of Canada. They have boosted production and held the cost line more than any other industry.

Before anyone else blames the farmer for creating his own problems through in-

efficiency, let him look at his own 40-hour week industry, with its fringe benefits and pensions, its plush expense accounts, its fancy factories and offices, AND its unemployment insurance, overtime pay and featherbedding.

The small farmer deserves consideration as much as the big operator.

Shoals dead-ahead

WHILE steering the Ship of State through the unfamiliar political seas of Ottawa, the new Government had better keep a weather eye open for signs of dangerous shoals.

So far, the Conservative navigators have set their course by their election promises; they have cruised their way through the tortuous passages and channels that allow them to increase pensions, allowances and loans without coming a cropper by increasing taxes. This is achieved through a simple re-distribution of funds.

But once completely clear of election issues, the Conservatives could easily come to grief on the biggest reef of all . . . the smouldering public resentment against government spending and high taxes. At the surface it may appear to a political land-lubber to be just another minor snag raising a few ripples, but the seasoned helmsman knows that that is just the visible tip of a veritable mountain of public opinion growing beneath the surface.

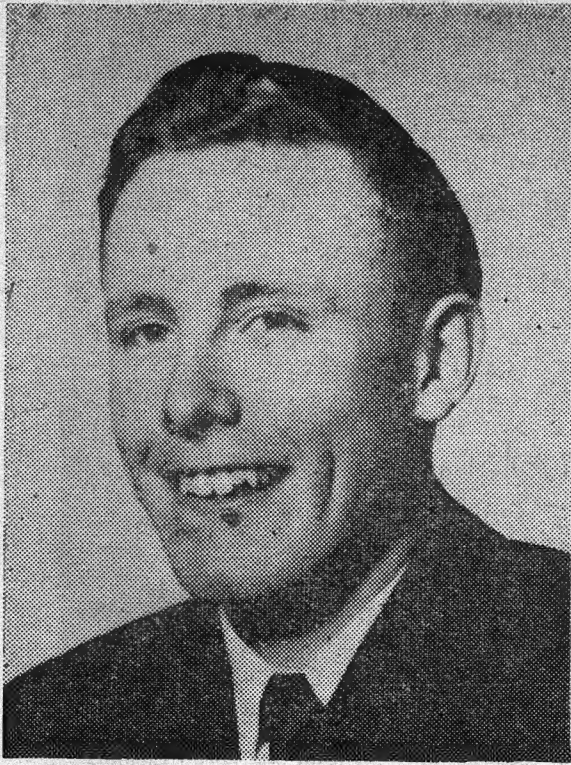
Across the entire continent resistance is developing fast against the growth and cost of big government and the regulating powers that go with it. With every change of government a quick re-shuffle to reallocate public funds takes place to give the impression that the drain on the treasury has been plugged. New governments invariably give lip service to a policy of cutting taxes, but then they generally turn around and try to maintain their popularity by giving away more money from the public treasury to their favourite charities . . . bigger pensions, more subsidies, higher civil service salaries, more administrative staffs . . . all the things that keep the vocal pressure groups at arms' length and boost taxes.

But responsible people in this country can easily see through a policy that dramatically cuts back defence spending on the one hand, and increases the costs of the welfare state with the other. This is not enough. The Conservatives went into Ottawa on an understanding that government costs and interference be cut down.

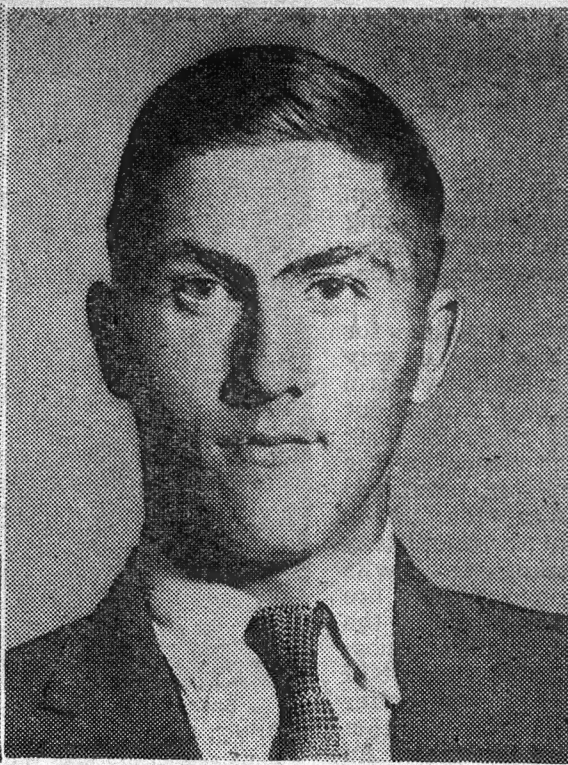
The taxpayers are not just asking that government spending be checked . . . they are demanding that it be rolled back.

Utopia?

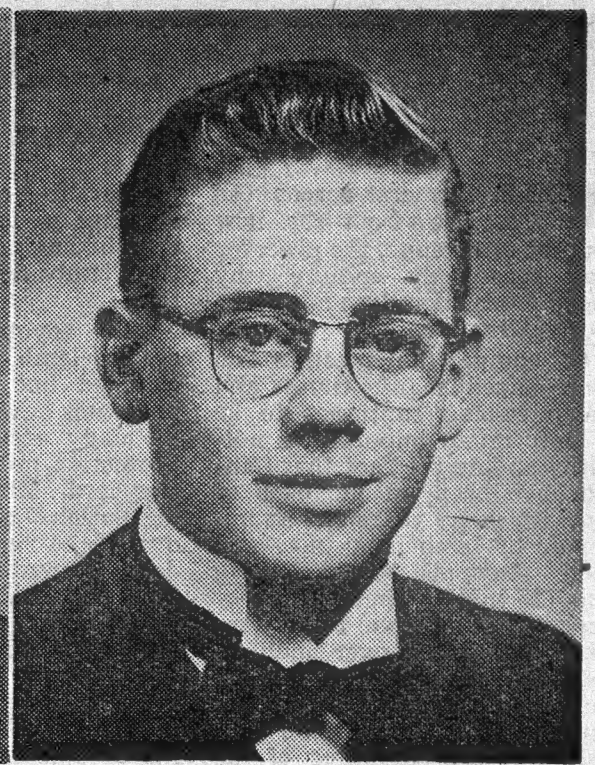
HERE in the dreamland of Socialism there are no rainy days. It is sunshine all the time. And for the future, let the "State" provide; while we live it shall feed us, when we fall ill it shall tend us and when we die it shall bury us. Meanwhile let us eat, drink and be merry and work as little as we may. Let us sit among the flowers. It is too hot to labor. Let us warm ourselves beside the public stove. It is too cold to work. — Stephen Leacock.



GORDON CHURCH,
Balzac, Alberta.



HUGH HALLIDAY,
Fairfax, Manitoba.



DELBERT FLATEN,
Weyburn, Saskatchewan.

The three young Western farmers pictured above have just had the thrilling experience, with all expenses paid, of a trip to the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair at Toronto. Each had the opportunity to win a scholarship, awarded annually by the T. Eaton Co., good for an agricultural education, at an agricultural college of the winner's choice. There was no British Columbia entry.

Each year the Department of Agriculture of each province selects a candidate to represent the province in this competition. Selections are carefully made on the boy's interest in agriculture, and the qualities and abilities he has for future leadership in the farm field. The winner is selected after various meetings with a committee of judges at the Fair. The candidates from the time they leave home are the guests of the T. Eaton Co.

This year the proud winner chosen was Harold Coffin, who lives at Cherry Hill, and was the candidate from Prince Edward Island.

A Little Wheat A Little Chaff

by Ivan Helmer

ONCE again it is that merry season when the store prices and the Christmas decorations are up — when the purse string is out (and all through the purse not a tinkle is heard), but everyone is looked after, and the larder is full, and the budget payments are all neatly arranged for a prosperous 1958. So — “deck the boughs with holly” (take a taxi when you visit) and have a happy time!

A lot of people don't believe in going easy on the grub, and they have the figures to prove it.

Emily Post says it is true that a woman is as young as she looks — but not always as young as she THINKS she looks. Fortunately for men looks are not a problem — most of them being such prize catches, or such prime prospects before capture, that looks make no matter.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS!

An item in the *Stettler Independent*, headed: 40 Years Ago, reads: “... had a narrow escape on Tuesday from a serious accident, when he fell out of a Ford car while leaning over to close the door as the car was running. Fortunately he struck a soft place and escaped unhurt.” Probably he was able to run after the car and save it, too. And if he wasn't the cost of straightening out the fenders wouldn't have been more than 85c.

A leading jockey claims that horse sense is something horses have which keeps them from betting on people.

And a village post office philosopher says: Girls are like newspapers. They have forms; they always have the last word; back numbers are not in demand; they have a great deal of influence; they are well worth looking over; you can't believe everything they say; they carry the news wherever they go; their upkeep is much higher than it used to be; and every man should have his own and not borrow the neighbors.

A man has reached middle age when figures like 36 - 24 - 34 only suggest something vague to him — perhaps a chemical formula, or a football signal, or the bore of some new hunting gun.

With synthetic satellites zooming round the old globe air-pilots may soon get a taste of what the pedestrian goes through every day.

Which should be a reminder to check your property insurance. Most policies take into account hail, fire, flood, wind, earthquakes and other calamities, but a new clause needs to be added to cover damage from expiring satellites.

And still on the subject; wonder how long, before the satellite will take the place of the salt mines, and people looking thoughtfully at one streaking across the heavens will ask: “Who do you suppose is in that one — Zhukov?”

A speaker lecturing on types of British humor related what is apparently an old story; about a mourner at a woman's funeral, who approach-

ed the widower when the ceremony was over and said with sincere sympathy: “You were married sixty years, John? That's a long, long time.”

“Aye,” said John, “and do you know, I never liked the woman.”

Henry Ford II, replying to Walter Reuther's proposal to reduce the price of cars, wrote, in part: “Having poured gasoline on the fires of inflation, you now stand by and tell us how to fight the blaze. In return you say you will consider using less gasoline next time — or maybe only kerosene.”

Now is the time for farm wives to take a good look at the old man, so they'll know him in the spring when the curling season is over.

After reading this the odd person may not want to buy a TV to keep the little woman company while he is absent from the family hearth. In Vienna a housewife, left alone for the evening because her husband had an important (ho-hum) meeting on, invited friends in to watch TV. The first programme they got (and probably the last that evening) starred hubby in a night club, all unaware of the camera's wandering eye, cuddling a comfortable blonde. The rest of the story is mercifully undisclosed.

How come back-seat drivers never run out of gas?

A place like this is buried every morning in propaganda mail. Sometimes the editor can't be found under it until late afternoon. It is unbelievable how many outfits get out promotional literature and news-releases and pictures extolling their own virtues. The governments alone are good for hundreds of pounds a week. A man is kept here all night just to empty waste-paper baskets. Half the woodsmen of British Columbia and Quebec are busy chopping down trees to make the paper. And

here is a fair example of what some of them consider news value: “The Food and Agricultural Organization, in its annual ‘Yearbook of Food and Agricultural Statistics’, reports that there are more asses in the world today than ever before.”

This is news? “The current number,” it goes on, “is 38.4 million — mostly in the Near and Far East and in Africa.”

Now don't you think that last line is just about the limit in Western smugness?

Few people would repeat gossip if there was anything else to do with it.

They say there is nothing like a dish towel for wiping the contented look off a married man's face.

If you drive — don't gamble! Remember how much you owe on the car.

A 98-year-old northern Alberta bachelor is quoted as saying: “I've lived so long because I never bothered with women.” He's missed something. In post-ether times certain tribes had a way of dealing with pain... Take a tooth-extraction — one person dug out the tooth. Another jabbed the victim in a tender spot with a red-hot iron. The pain of the burn was the greatest so the toothache was gone — or seemed to be gone. This was a counter-irritant. Woman is a remarkable (and often delightful) counter-irritant. A man may have his mind set on worrying about the mortgage on the old homestead. He may intend devoting the day to it. But his wife gives him hell about dropping ashes on her clean floor and his plans are completely shot. Thus an ulcer is prevented. As Mark Twain is credited with saying: “A certain amount of fleas is good for a dog — it keeps him from brooding on his troubles.”

98 years is a long time to bear your own cross.

Let's look at sheep

by Grant MacEwan

WHILE farmers across the West search for new sources of revenue, the observer may reasonably enquire why sheep production does not prove more attractive.

Of course, the question has been asked many times and sheep raising continues to be of only minor importance, notwithstanding the fact that Canada has been an importer of wool for many years and an importer of lamb meat now and then. Australia has something like 125 million sheep and New Zealand, 30 million, while Canada's numbers hover indifferently at less than two million. Actually, this country has fewer sheep at the present time than it had at the beginning of the century.

If all the sheep in Canada at June 1, 1956, were distributed among all the farms of the nation, there would be only a fraction more than two sheep per farm. And in many sections of the country, farm dogs far outnumber farm sheep. Among the provinces, Alberta has the largest sheep population — about 400,000 head — and yet even there, the total impact is unimpressive. Total revenue from the sale of sheep and lambs in Alberta, 1956, was under three million dollars, compared with \$97,000,000 for cattle and \$59,000,000 for pigs.

Nobody can expect to become rich from the returns from a farm flock but the grower who has one will usually admit that, in relation to the amount of investment, his sheep have been among the most profitable enterprises on the farm.

Why, then, not more sheep? The question will receive various answers — high cost of proper fencing, dog and coyote depredations, unfamiliarity with techniques associated with lambing and shearing, and "sheep would mean some extra chores." There is no doubt that failure to cope with coyotes and stray dogs has induced many

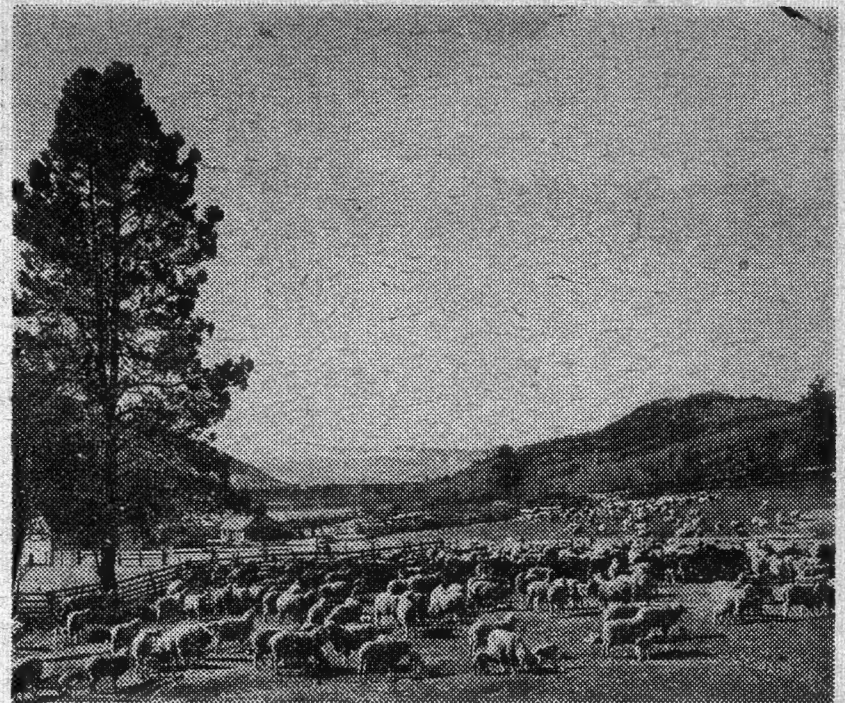
people to quit the sheep. Nothing is more discouraging than finding good ewes or promising lambs destroyed by predators.

The coyote's appetite for spring lamb has in no way changed but predator control programs have been carried out in many areas to make flock protection much easier for the shepherd. Moreover, provincial legislation gives the sheep owner the right to shoot stray dogs threatening to make trouble. As long as there are coyotes and stray dogs, the sheepman must be alert to possible danger, but as a result of government policy and better flock management, his position has become more favorable. An exhibitor of lambs at the Saskatchewan Feeder Show at Moose Jaw in October, remarked: "I haven't lost a hoof to either dogs or coyotes in the last five years." "But," he added, "my sheep are always corralled at night and I'm pretty handy with a rifle."

Good woven-wire fencing such as every sheepman would like to have, is costly — \$1.00 to \$1.50 per rod for the kind that is 32 inches high. That means \$640 to \$1,000 for wire alone to enclose a quarter section. It is not an investment a man would care to make unless he were confident that sheep raising would become a permanent part of his farming operations.

But for the person who plans to stay with the enterprise and hopes to integrate sheep with a progressive mixed farming program, the investment will not seem nearly so forbidding. Moreover, there could be added dividends in the form of more feed utilization and economical weed control.

Still, there are alternatives to costly fences. Many owners manage fairly well by adding an extra strand or two of barbed wire to the ordinary fences. Under range conditions where flocks are big and almost con-



Scenes like the one here, from a sheep ranch near Kamloops, British Columbia, are all too rare in Western Canada. Canadians for some reason are luke warm towards mutton-eating and sheep raising, although many parts of Canada are made-to-order for the sheep man. Australia has a sheep population of 125,000,000; Canada less than 2,000,000.

National Film Board Photo.

stantly under the care of herders and sheep-dogs, grazing areas are not limited by fences. Such ranch methods of caring for sheep during the pasture season may suggest something for owners of farm flocks. Where large areas of grazing land are available within reasonable distance, it could be profitable for two or more owners of flocks in a community to throw their bands together and place a reliable sheep herder in charge for the summer. At the end of the season, each owner's sheep would be returned to his farm for wintering. This is the Community Pasture idea applied to sheep and where the expanses of cheap grazing are within moderate reach, it could be entirely practical.

Apart from fencing, equipment needed to support a farm flock will be exceedingly inexpensive — probably less expensive than for any other type of livestock. Being well fitted by nature to withstand low winter temperature, sheep do not demand more than the most modest shelters. During winter, they must be protected against drafts and dampness, and a low shed with roof and three closed sides will serve the purpose about as well as a more costly building. For early lambing, of course, a place offering more comfortable quarters will be needed but generally, some other stabling on the farm can be requisitioned for the short period of special need.

Nor is the cost of breeding stock needed in starting a flock likely to be high. At the Saskatchewan Feeder Show at Moose Jaw in the past fall, 326 breeding ewes of all ages sold at an average price of \$10.45. As an alternative to buying mature ewes, a beginner might select ewe lambs but he'd have to wait an extra year for full normal return from increase. At Moose

Jaw, the ewe lambs might have been bought at \$16.00 per hundred pounds or about \$10.00 per head for 65-pound animals. The mature ewes — even old ones — ready to go into the breeding flock, would hold definite advantages for the person embarking upon a breeding project.

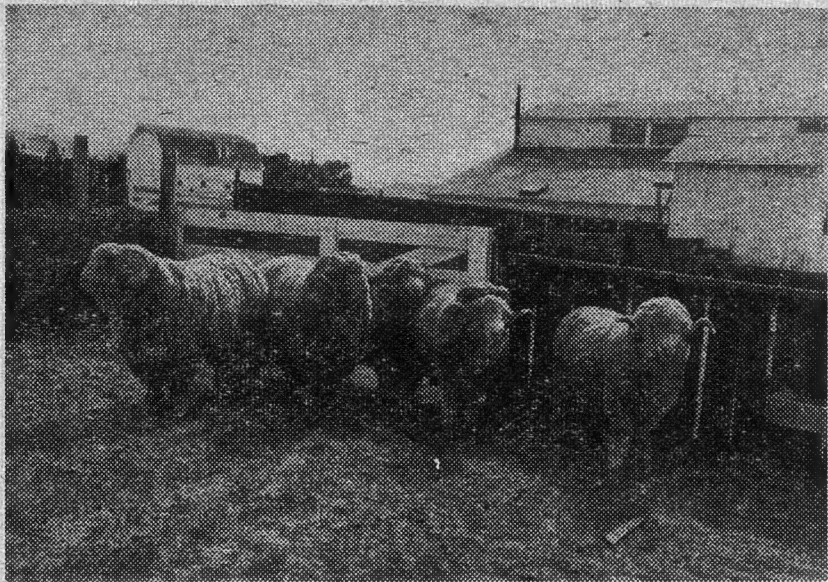
The beginner is likely to favor sheep of the common or Down breeds, strictly mutton in type and commonly black in the face. It will bear noting, however, that sheep of the breeds dominating the ranges of the West, make excellent foundation material, for farm flocks. They may be of Rambouillet or other white-faced breed. In any case, they will possess added hardiness and vigor, excellent flocking instincts and the capacity to cross well with the Down breeds. With some Canadian producers of commercial sheep, those range-bred ewes are now so popular that they have completely adopted the practices of crossbreeding, selling all the offspring on the regular markets and, finally, when the white-faced ewes are worn out, salvaging them and replacing with new stock from the range country.

Occasionally, sheep raising is conducted on a sharing basis with a flock owner and a working partner dividing the returns. Such an arrangement has given better satisfaction with sheep than with cattle or pigs. The fact that some sharing contracts have continued for years shows satisfaction on the part of both parties.

A sharing plan must fit local conditions, of course, but in a general way, where the first party furnishes the ewes and rams, and the second-party supplies feed and care, the latter takes 60 to 65 per cent of all the returns from sale of lambs and wool. Ewe replacement is



Sheep production, even on a small scale, fits well into mixed farming practice, particularly where a farmer has access to semi-waste land.



These are Rambouillet rams from Idaho and Utah.

made from the lambs and if the flock is to be extended, the first party or landlord must settle with the second party by buying out his initial interest in the lambs as increase. The first party would also be responsible for rams, at the same time taking the payments for old rams salvaged or turned over to some other breeder.

The reasonable conclusion is that sheep are not difficult to manage — nor are they fool-proof. The good caretaker must be ready for long hours at lambing time, perhaps hard work at shearing time, reasonably close attention to nutritional needs and parasite control at all times, and protection against predator enemies whenever there is danger. It is largely a matter of common sense. And sheep raising can be challenging as well as profitable.

Moreover, there would be huge opportunities for expansion if Canadians were to show even a moderate degree of interest in lamb meat. The extremely low consumption of lamb and mutton in Canada through the years is difficult to understand and more difficult to explain. The quality of Canadian lamb is high and the price is reasonable. Although purchasers are heard now and then to complain about the price of the most sought after cuts, the fact is that average prices on lamb cuts — all cuts — are not high. As this is being written in Calgary in the month of November, leg of lamb is being sold across the counter at 69 cents a pound, lamb shoulder at 35 cents and lamb stewing meat at 25 cents. Such prices are entirely in line with those of other and more widely used meats. Why, then, so little demand for lamb?

Canadians, for some reason not easy to recognize, have never learned to eat lamb and, while the 1956 figure for per capita consumption of beef soared to 75.5 pounds and that for pork to 56.5 pounds, the average consumption for mutton and lamb was an amazing 2.8 pounds. In other words, the total consumption of mutton and lamb by Mr. Average Cana-

dian in the year 1956 was less than the equivalent of half of one leg of lamb.

Sheep production fits well into mixed farming practice and with consumer interest, it could help greatly to broaden the base of Canadian agriculture.

Too many farm fires!

EACH year, hundreds of Canadian farmers are brought close to financial ruin by fire, according to the All Canada Insurance Federation.

According to the Federation, which represents more than 200 Canadian fire, automobile and casualty insurance companies, fire is the farmer's greatest hazard.

The Federation recommends the following safety measures to help prevent farm fires:

Allow hay and similar produce to dry thoroughly before it is stored in barns. Wet hay can start fires through spontaneous combustion.

Lightning arrester systems should be of a good make and properly installed. They should be inspected at least once a year.

Radio and television antennae should be adequately grounded.

Electrical wiring should be checked regularly by experts, especially when new machinery or motors are installed.

Wire fences attached to buildings should be grounded at the nearest fencepost to the building. This is another protection against lightning.

Electric wires for lights should be installed in approved fashion. Extension cords strung over rafters or nails are dangerous.

Gasoline, kerosene and other inflammables should be stored in well-marked safety cans.

Stoves or other heating equipment should be cleaned and inspected at least once a year.

If possible, a well or pond should be located near buildings to aid in fighting fires.

Each building should be equipped with approved fire extinguishers.



TAKE THE WORK OUT OF WOODCUTTING

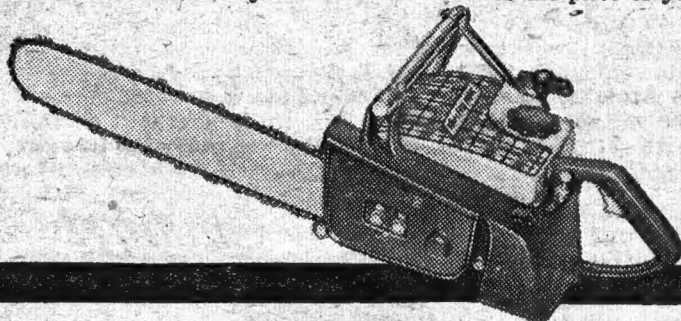
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The "Thrifty Mac" is the **FARMER'S CHAIN SAW!**

McCulloch "Thrifty Mac" takes the hard work out of any wood cutting. Whether you regard your timber as a cash crop or merely as a firewood supply, the "Thrifty Mac" is the chain saw for you!

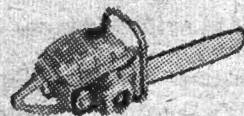
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See your McCulloch Dealer today — prizes awarded on answering claim questions — find out how you can win three times the price of your saw.



Here are just a few of the features that prove the power and operating ease of the McCulloch "Thrifty Mac"—and which help make it the choice of farmers all over Canada:—

- Coil on outside of flywheel gives much hotter spark and extra high voltage for guaranteed easy starting.
- Equipped with the exclusive McCulloch "pintail chain" for long life.
- McCulloch "jet type" fuel pump has fewer wearing parts, eliminates troublesome adjustments.
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ALSO SEE McCULLOCH'S
POWERFUL D-44—
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The Cypress of Tule, Mexico, the oldest known among all living things towers above an early Spanish cathedral and is still growing.

The elder statesman among trees

The majestic Cypress of Tule

Going strong at 7000 years

THE farm interest of Canadians is not entirely in the production of grains, of hays, or vegetables, or meat and dairy products.

In Canada, a land of vast and wondrous forests, comprising nearly half (42%) of our total land area, one-third of all the forest lands under private ownership is on farms. Thirteen per cent of the total farm area in Canada is tree covered. In 1956 farmers, across the nation, had an income of \$85,000,000.00 from the wood production of their farms.

Eastern Canada is famous for its maples and its oaks, and its many other hardwoods, and for its softwoods. In the west, Manitoba is basically tree country and its cultivated areas are dotted with beautiful groves. Over the rest of the province a sizeable timber industry flourishes. Even the prairie provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta, in their northern parts have a wealth of smaller type timbers. And British Columbia with its towering Douglas firs, its pines and cedars is a mass of forest growth. Fifty cents out of every dollar comes from its forest products.

Naturally, then, Canadians are more than a little tree conscious, and are tree lovers.

Almost every school child knows about California's giant redwood trees. They are told they are the biggest and oldest of living things.

But the redwoods and the Douglas firs are no great shucks to the tree pictured above, the Cypress of Tule, which shades a tiny churchyard in the Mexican village of Santa Maria del Tule, near the city of Oaxaca, Mexico.

This tree, being somewhat off the beaten paths, has received

little bally-hoo, but it is believed by many experts to have been growing for hundreds of years before any of the present redwoods put a shoot above the earth.

The lowest estimate of the age of the Cypress of Tule is well over 4,000 years; the highest 10,000 years — so perhaps 7,000 years is a fair figure for its age. Such antiquity among the living is incomprehensible.

Here is a tree already grown to manhood and 2,000 years of age when the great Sphinx of Egypt was completed. It was a mellow and sedate 4,500 years old when Confucius began to record the known history of the Chinese people, and it had flourished for nearly 20 centuries more before the Great Wall of



Canada's oldest tree — the Douglas Fir, patriarch of British Columbia forests, is but an infant compared to California's giant Sequoia or Mexico's Cyprus.

B.C. Govt. Photo.

*a Bright new idea
for Christmas
Giving!*



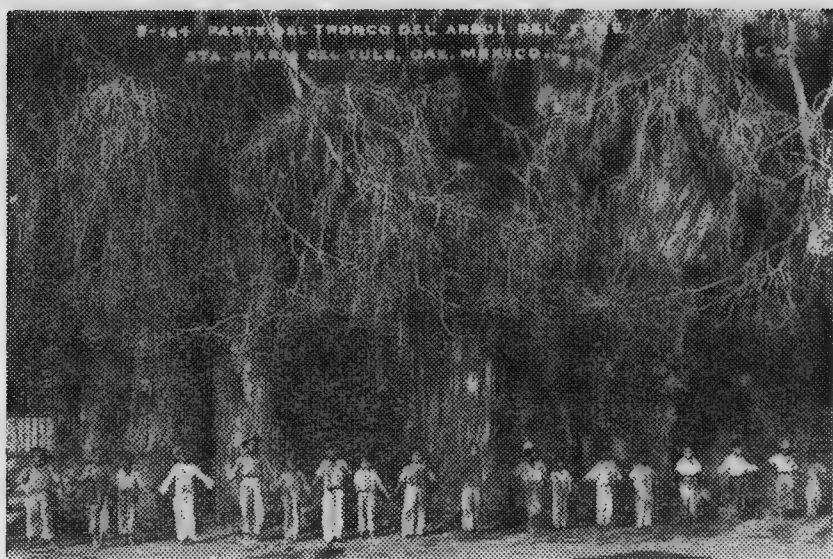
Gaily Gift-Wrapped
Royal Bank Money Orders

This Christmas send Royal Bank Money Orders. It's the smart, practical, effortless way to "wrap up" your gift list. And now, the Royal Bank offers you, free with every Money Order you buy, a colourful Christmas greeting folder in which to send it. Ask about this new Christmas gift idea at any "Royal" branch.

*a Gift of
Cash
is Always
Welcome*

THE ROYAL BANK OF CANADA

RB-57-7



It took seven thousand years or more to grow this mighty trunk of the Cyprus of Tule. Eighteen Mexican youngsters in line give some idea of its diameter at ground level.

China was finally built. Here is a tree, perhaps already weary with looking out over a troubled world and approaching its 5,000th birthday, when the Roman emperors were dabbling with their poisons and Nero was liquidating the Christians; a tree that had been waiting 6,500 years for a Columbus to discover America.

Now, try this for size: Great trees are rated by their waistlines at four and a half feet above the ground. The Cypress of Tule exceeds 124 feet at this height (at the ground its circumference is 160 feet), while the General Sherman, greatest of the redwoods, measures only 101 feet.

Due to some accident in the long gone past the Cypress is only about 165 feet in height, short compared to British Columbia's fir trees, or the redwoods.

But if a tree is meant for

shade, for shelter, for a sense of tranquillity, or just for breathtaking picturesqueness then the Cypress of Tule is King — or should it be Queen?

It is fascinating to speculate on the numbers of people who have, through the centuries, found comfort under its mighty boughs; of the travellers who have rested in its shade; the natives who have sought solace or shelter under its protecting canopy; of the thousands of children through all the ages who must have romped round its sturdy trunk; of the lovers who have used it for a trysting place; and the hordes of animals who, long before the time of Christ, and since, have sought relief there from the hot summer sun; and of the scores and scores of the furies of nature it must have weathered to remain unscathed and flourishing — a thing of awe and inspiration to all who behold it. I. H.

Serious farm income loss

SASKATCHEWAN'S farm net income is predicted by provincial government economists to fall this year to half the 1956 per capita level of \$1,090.

Main cause of the drastic drop in farm net income is the lowered production of the 1957 wheat crop, which was mainly responsible for a drop of \$140,000,000 in the value of the 1957 farm inventory.

The large reduction in inventory has cut provincial farm net income from \$390,000,000 in 1956 to an estimated \$197,000,000 this year.

The 50 per cent drop in farm net income will be felt all over Saskatchewan. In 1956 about 60 per cent of the province's revenue came from agriculture. Nearly 53 per cent of the provincial work force is employed on farms.

Effects of the lessened farm net income in Saskatchewan eventually will be felt in the Canadian economy. Saskatchewan produces about 60 per cent of Canadian wheat production, currently the second largest export. In addition, employment

in industries serving Saskatchewan farms will be curtailed in line with the falling farm income.

Saskatchewan's estimated farm production for 1957 follows with the revised 1956 production in brackets:

Wheat, 211,000,000 bushels (350,000,000); oats, 82,000,000 bu. (165,000,000); barley, 82,000,000 bu. (99,000,000); flax, 12,600,000 bu. (19,000,000); rye, 3,200,000 bu. (4,100,000); rapeseed, 361,125,000 lbs. (252,450,000); forage seed, 6,600,000 lbs. (7,000,000); tame hay, 800,000 tons (1,068,000).

Spuds not fattening

SPEAKING in Guelph, Dr. L. B. Pett, Ottawa nutritionist, said everyone ought to eat at least one potato a day. Dr. Pett scoffed at the notion that potatoes are fattening. "It's all in the use," he said, "after all, spuds can be boiled, baked French fried, home fried, used in salads, au gratin and so on. Some of the latter are more apt, naturally, to add a layer of tissue to the human body than plain boiled or baked potatoes.

KIRK'S... HEATING LIMITED THREE HILLS, ALBERTA

Present the Answers to Your Heating Problems!

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"THE SAVING IS AMAZING"

(These figures will vary depending on local prices)

Type of Fuel.	Cost per Ton or Equiv. Delivered.	Cost per 10-Ton or Eq. for 1 Yr.'s Fuel Supply.	Cost per 5 yrs. at 10 Ton per yr. or Equiv.	5-Year Savings With Coal.
COAL	4.50	45.00	225.00	↓
OIL @ 17c per gallon	20.23	202.30	1,011.50	786.50
PROPANE @ 20½c per gal.	37.31	373.10	1,865.50	1,640.50
NATURAL GAS @ \$1.00 per MCF	20.00	200.00	1,000.00	775.50

WHY HOME OWNERS PREFER KIRK'S NEW COAL-FIRED HEATING UNITS

With KIRK'S NEW COAL-FIRED you win many ways:

NO NEED TO FREEZE DURING A POWER FAILURE — Kirks have the only automatic furnace on the market that can be hand-fired in the case of power failure or a national emergency.

SAFETY FIRST — No explosion hazard as with gas and oil. When you have a wife and family, you must think more than ever of Safety First.

EASY TO SERVICE — Kirk's Stokers are easy to service, but gas and oil furnaces take a specialized service crew and should be serviced often to keep them operating safely.

PLENTY OF COAL FOR EVERYONE — Coal will always be available in Canada and you can get your year's supply before winter sets in. A mid-winter shortage need not affect you as with Propane or Oil.

COAL IS CHEAPER BY FAR — You have a chance to survive in hard times if you are buying cheap coal.

CLEAN AND CONVENIENT — If you say that oil and propane are clean and convenient, remember that the **NEW KIRK'S MODEL 100** is clean and convenient, too. Kirk's **GUARANTEE** their jobs to be dust-tight, and here is how you can help: You may say you don't want to bother with coal, but here is the answer—you can have coal and yet have a dust-free job. **FIRST**, and foremost, make your coal bin from ¾" sheathply (plywood) and seal the joints with masking tape or caulking compound.

SECOND, Try to arrange your heating unit so the Stoker-hopper is in the bin; then to fill the hopper you merely go into the bin and close the door. This confines the dust to the bin.

FINALLY, Kirk's **NEW Ashpan** fits neatly into the bottom of the square combustion chamber and catches all the ashes. You no longer have the chore of shovelling ashes.

IT'S NEW AND IT'S DIFFERENT — When you think of coal, do not compare the **NEW KIRK'S HEATING UNIT** with old coal-fired jobs that have been on the market for two years or more. Kirk's have an entirely **NEW FURNACE** all **THEIR OWN DESIGN**.



MONEY TO BURN — No one has money to burn, and yet unwittingly, perhaps, you may be doing that very thing. You may be putting your money up the chimney in the form of high fuel bills.

WRITE FOR YOUR FREE COPY OF KIRK'S LATEST CATALOG!

**KIRK'S HEATING LIMITED,
THREE HILLS, ALBERTA**

Please send me information on the items marked below:

- ☐ An automatic heating unit for our building.
- We are interested in: ☐ Oil ☐ Propane
☐ Natural Gas ☐ Stoker-fired
- ☐ We have electric power in our home: ☐ 110 V. ☐ 32 V.
- ☐ Send complete information by mail.
- ☐ Have someone call and inspect my old furnace.
- ☐ Submit estimate of new job (No charge for estimate.)
- ☐ My house is new ☐ old ☐ remodeled

'GROWING POPULATION BIG MARKET FOR DAIRY FOODS'

—DAIRY FARMERS OF CANADA

This year Canadians will consume about 17 billion pounds of milk in one form or another. With the home market now bigger than ever—and increasing every year—you might think that dairy foods would sell themselves. Not so.

While there's been a good market for dairy foods in Canada for many years, that market has not always been easy to maintain.

Rapid industrial growth in recent times brought with it ever increasing competition for the Canadian food dollar.

To meet this competition each year since 1950, the Dairy Farmers of Canada have been conducting an extensive advertising and sales promotion campaign in 84 daily and 270 weekly newspapers, 6 magazines, 18 trade papers, 25 farm papers and over 14 French network radio stations.

Advertising has helped maintain and increase consumption.

One of the big jobs our advertising has done is to keep our regular customers aware of the value of milk and milk products in their everyday diet so they would continue to use these products. Of course, the advertising did much more than this. It urged them to use more dairy products every day. It kept them informed about new products and new uses for existing products. In this way, it helped increase the consumption of our regular customers.

Advertising helps insure the continued rise of consumption.

Nearly 40% of the population of Canada—more than 6 million

people—are under 20 years of age. And this number is increasing every year. Part of the job of our advertising is to keep reminding these young people of the nutritional value of dairy foods, so they'll continue to use them as they grow older.

Advertising helps put dairy foods in new households.

Each year approximately 160,000 new households are established in Canada. It's important to see that these new households get off to the right start by using plenty of dairy foods in their daily diet. Most of these households soon have children. It's the job of our advertising to keep reminding the parents that their children need milk and other dairy foods regularly and often.

Advertising introduces dairy foods to new faces at the table.

Every day Canada's population is increasing by about 1100 people. Many of these new faces appearing at the Canadian table are New Canadians. And many of them come from countries where milk and milk products are not as common a staple of the daily diet as in Canada. It's important to acquaint these people with the value of dairy foods that are so readily available here. Advertising does this job, too.

So you see that advertising has a big job to do. Our advertising has been doing that job well for many years. But it's a never-ending task. We must constantly educate, inform and remind the Canadian public of the value of dairy foods in their regular diet.



DAIRY FARMERS OF CANADA

409 Huron Street, Toronto



What About Santa Claus?

by Louise Price Bell

CHRISTMAS is the most wonderful day of the entire year. And in every Christian home it stands for one event—the birth of the Holy Babe so many, many years ago. In these homes the children have heard the beautiful story from infancy, have been lulled to sleep at Yuletide by the exquisite Christmas music that is on many records. The season is a family one, or should be, and the finest celebrations are at the family fireside, a significant fact that might well be pondered by young people as well as their parents. For the full meaning of Christmas finds expression where homes are filled with love, understanding, a recognition of, and adherence, to discipline, honesty and faith. Here the spirit of Christmas exists not only in December each year but throughout all the other months, culminating at Yuletide.

Given this sort of Christian backlog, children can get the full enjoyment from Santa Claus, with no misconceptions, nor confusion; yet there are a few people who feel that the jolly old fellow should not be included in Christmas plans. This is usually because they

have very little imagination, for *Santa Claus*, *The Blue Bird*, *Peter Pan*, *Alice in Wonderland*, and scores of other imaginative and loveable characters, are a vital and fascinating part of the warp and woof of Childhood.

Talking about Santa Claus at this season isn't being untruthful, for no honest parents would tell their children that Santa is a real live man any more than they would say that the Easter Bunny actually hides Easter eggs or that the Tooth Fairy takes their extracted tooth from under their pillows and leaves a dime in place of it. It is, instead, the fun of sharing the exciting land of make-believe tales as is done when fairy tales are read to them. Youngsters love these stories, yet never once think of Cinderella, the Gingerbread Man, or Red Riding Hood as being alive. So why should anyone create a barrier in their minds by rearing that the smallsters will fail to take the same attitude toward Santa Claus!

It's fun to talk about the red-cheeked Yuletide visitor with an air of mystery, and children adore that. When the tiniest family member asks how Santa can ever get down the chimney, when he is so very plump, the natural and indisputable answer

is that he couldn't if he were a real, flesh-and-blood man like Daddy... and that *that* is what makes fairies and make-believe people the most fun of all. They can do all sorts of things that we humans couldn't possibly accomplish!

With such attitudes, youngsters in homes where integrity and frankness exist at all times, grow up knowing from the first that their Yuletide friend isn't real... but that pretending about him is scads of fun. They never reach a harsh disillusionment such as occurs when unwise parents aren't honest with their children. No child should be subject to that type of shock, and specialists claim that when they do, it often has a long-range effect.

After all Santa Claus is the happy, gay spirit of Christmas... the spirit of loving and giving... of sharing... being selfless, and striving to spread good will. So there IS a Santa Claus, after all. Not a plump, bright-eyed man in red that we see with our eyes and feel with our hands, for if that were true Santa would have been dead long ago! He is made of the things that last forever, mostly love. For although houses may burn or tumble down, trees live a very long time but eventually die, love goes on and on... passing from one generation to another. It is immortal. And sometimes if love is strong enough and worthy of preservation it takes unto itself a sort of human form and that becomes immortal, too. That is the way many families feel about Santa Claus. He stands for love and thoughtfulness and these things, shared, have gradually merged and taken form that is far more lasting than a human form could be. Love was in the world long before we were and will be here long after we leave.

It is really too bad that there aren't more things in the world as sound, as full of joy, as the spirit of Santa Claus. No one ever read about his being irritable, unkind, or unselfish, or speaking a cross word, or doing anything but good deeds. That is because where there is love there is no place for those things.

So let's continue to tell our youngsters about "jolly old St. Nick", at the same time rearing them in the spirit of loving and giving and sharing which he emulates far above the mere filling of stockings. If we do this, we will inculcate the true spirit of Christmas in their hearts and as they grow older they will understand and realize his place, the degree of his importance. Let them have the fun of talking with the dressed-up man in a Santa Claus suit at church, school, or in the store; they will know he isn't the man who will fill their stockings on Christmas Eve. And remember—wordy explanations aren't necessary, children soon sense

Santa's mission is to bring love into all hearts and do the Christ-Child's will at Christmas.

Danger in fumigating

FUMIGANTS used for the control of insects and mites in stored grain are poisonous to humans and should be handled with the utmost care.

When fumigating stored grain, a capable assistant should always be present in case of accident. Both operator and assistant must wear a full-face gas mask equipped with a proper, fresh or uncontaminated filter or canister. Although it is almost impossible to estimate the useful life of a filter, the operator can, in some cases, judge from his sense of smell and taste when the filter has reached saturation. If gas is detected through the mask, the operator should move to fresh air immediately and insert a fresh filter.

Most fumigants cause skin irritation and if the liquid is spilled and remains in contact with the skin, blisters may result. For this reason protective clothing, preferably rubber, should be worn. If rubber clothing is not available, coveralls or similar clothing that can be washed or thoroughly aired, should be worn. It is advisable to wear rubber boots and rubber gloves as leather tends to absorb the chemical. Rubber raincoats or slickers will also provide a limited amount of protection. Immediately after exposure, the operator should change to fresh clothing and if liquid fumigant has been spilled on the skin, the area should be washed with soap and water as soon as possible.

All entrances to fumigated premises should be posted with warning signs and all humans and domestic animals should be kept clear of the area before and after the fumigant has been applied. If fumigant poisoning is suspected, a physician should be consulted as soon as possible. In the meantime the victim should be promptly removed to fresh air and kept warm to minimize shock. If necessary artificial respiration should be applied.

World wheat sales

IT was disclosed at the meeting of the International Wheat Council in Washington this month, that the United States had a big edge over its competitors, so far this year, in wheat sales. Since August 1st the U.S. has disposed of 37,000,000 of its quota of 128,000,000 bushels. Canada has sold 18,000,000 bushels from a quota of 100,000,000. And from its quota of 29,000,000 bushels Australia has made only small sales.

B.C. apple exports

SHIPMENTS of B.C. apples to the old countries started in October with three ships carry-

ing apples to the United Kingdom. The apple crop on continental Europe is much smaller than usual this year due to heavy winter and frost damage. Sales to the United Kingdom may be down somewhat because of a lack of sizes demanded for the market. The B.C. crop ran about two sizes larger than last year owing to an excellent growing season.

B.C.'s marketing agency, the B.C. Tree Fruits Ltd., is considerably heartened, though, with prospects for selling apples to Holland, Germany, Switzerland and Sweden. These markets have been impossible to get into for several years.

Good sales are expected, too, to Singapore, the Malay Straits, Hong Kong, Venezuela and the West Indies.

Train for better farming

SPEAKING to some 60 district 4-H champions, Hon. C. L. Shuttleworth, Agriculture Minister of Manitoba, urged the youngsters to further their agricultural training. Pointing out that recent agricultural trends demand better and better farming practices, the Minister said, "professional agriculturists are needed more today than ever before."

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Three Turkeys

by Kerry Wood

A FEW days before Christmas the large red truck from the express company wheeled into our yard and the cheery driver handed me a box.

"Here y'are," he said. "Feels heavy, too. I bet there's something good in there for that boy of yours, or maybe even a pretty present for those two girls."

I thanked him, then the whole family helped carry and usher the box into the house. Since it was a Saturday, the children were home from school. One could sense the happy excitement there always is in a family home around the Yuletide season.

"Does it hafta go under the tree without being opened?" asked young Greg, just a little mournful about that idea. "Can't we just have one tiny peek, huh?"

"It's addressed to Dad," Ron-do said, then flashed a pleased grin and added: "Oh, it says

'and Family', so that means we're included."

"We gotta open it!" Heather gave a joyful shout. "Look here! It has a 'Perishable' sticker on it."

Meanwhile, Wife Marjory and myself had Ohhhed and Ahhhed over the box, mentally checking off relatives and friends who might have sent it. There was no return address anywhere on the top or sides; just our own neatly typed name. The hefty weight intrigued us, too.

"We'll just have to open it," I told her, whereupon Marjory smiled and retorted: "You're just as excited as the kids!"

All five of us gathered around the box on the dining room table, helping untie knots and using scissors on tough ones until finally the paper was unfolded to expose the cardboard box underneath. Once again we searched for a sender's name. Not a sign. More string

was severed and the box flaps opened.

"Ooooooooooooooh! Look!"

Inside there was a large, solidly frozen turkey. I lifted out the oven-ready bird, and as this was done a small slip of paper fell clear. Marjory retrieved that note. She unfolded it and read it in an instant, whereupon an expression of amazement spread over her countenance.

"Listen to this," she called, and read aloud: "Merry Christmas to Kerry Wood and Family, from a secret admirer." After that, there's one more word in brackets. Take a look."

'From a secret admirer, (Male).'

You can imagine the pleasure the mysterious gift brought to our home! The address label was carefully cut from the

That gift came three years ago. Whenever I had a chance to talk with Calgary city and district friends, the turkey was mentioned so that I would be able to thank the right party. Either my friends are excellent actors, or I'm not too shrewd at guessing, but every time I got a negative answer. So our family was left with a warm glow of unspoken thanks directed towards that unknown donor.

When the 1955 Christmas fell due, along came the express truck with another big turkey. The same good Christmas wish, with this typed message: "From the same admirer, and still male!" Terrific cries of delight from the Woodlot, with phone calls to our local friends to tell them the news. Many hurried around to have a look for them-



With more turkeys in Canada this year, than for many years, in flocks all over the country like this one on the farm of Nick Schuster, near Saltcoats, Saskatchewan, we are afraid Scotland Yard itself couldn't find out where Kerry Wood's Christmas turkeys are coming from.

Sask. Govt. Photo.

outer paper, the typed note turned over and over, while wrappings and box were thoroughly checked for clues to the sender's identity. Not a single lead could we find. We phoned the express office and asked for their help in the detective work, but drew a blank except for one item.

"It was shipped from Calgary. That's all we know about it."

That turkey was delicious on Christmas Day. The address label and typed message were displayed on our mantle, shown to every Yuletide visitor. Immediately after Christmas Marjory and I wrote to friends living in the Calgary area, trying to express our thanks in case any of them had sent the bird. Each denied knowledge of the turkey gift. One man who has a family of four hilarious boys offered to drive slowly around the multifarious streets of Calgary with his car windows wound down while his four boys yelled at the top of their healthy lungs: "Thanks for Kerry's Christmas Turkey!" in hopes that the secretive donor would hear and understand.

selves and help us search diligently but vainly for clues. Then one wise friend gently chided us, saying:

"You shouldn't try to discover who sent the gift. Remember the old adage about it being more blessed to give than receive? Well, someone is probably feeling pretty good about doing this giving. Don't spoil it; just be grateful!"

Last Christmas the truck came again and delivered a turkey from the secretive giver, with another heart-warming message that received the honor place on our mantle once more. Perhaps the gift comes from a Calgarian; perhaps from a farmer in the Calgary region. Perhaps from someone who reads my writings in the FARM AND RANCH REVIEW, because scores of letters come our way from F. & R. readers every year. So THANKS to SOMEONE. Our family would like that special someone to know that his kindness has set us a marvelous example. We are very much more aware of the Goodwill towards All of Christmastime, because of those three turkeys.

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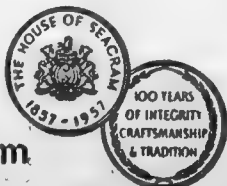
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Waging war on wolves with mothballs

by P. W. Luce

SOME people claim that mothballs don't really drive off moths, much less wolves.

But there appears to be a growing number of sheepmen in the mountain valleys of Northern B.C. who find the white crystals to be a useful weapon against the animals. It seems the pungent odor of the mothballs has a particularly ill effect on a hungry wolf. These predators, roaming in the Prince George district of B.C., will not attack sheep that are protected by the fumes of naphthalene, and are even said to desert a district that has thereby become offensive to them. The mothball method is considered by many to be effective enough, but unfortunately it is rather expensive and troublesome to apply.

Thomas E. Gerhardi is reputed to be the first sheepman to use mothballs on more than an experimental scale. In the past he has lost hundreds of dollars every year by wolf depredations among his flock of sheep, and at last he decided to do something about it. Somehow, he learned about the antipathy of the wolves for mothballs. None too seriously, as an experiment he hung a few mothballs around the neck of some sheep that were grazing in a district ravaged by the predators that had killed twenty of the animals in a week.

The scheme worked amazingly well.

Watching through a spyglass a few hours later, Mr. Gerhardi saw a lone wolf slink towards a sheep and make a dive for its throat. Before it touched the sheep the wolf swerved aside, stood still a moment, then streaked back towards the bush. It seemed to be shaking its head as it ran, as if trying to get rid of the offensive odor.

Since then Mr. Gerhardi has protected his sheep with the little pungent pellets. The wolves have been very leary of touching the live meat they find so delicious, and it is rare for one of them to be seen around the district today.

It is not feasible to impregnate every member of a big flock, so Mr. Gerhardi picks out a select number of ewes to be the guardians of the lot, and hopes that they will be scattered around. Sometimes they are, and sometimes they are bunched up. Nothing can be done to correct this business.

The mothballs are encased in a plastic bag pierced by about 30 holes, and suspended under the sheep's throat. The body heat activates the naphthalene scent which confuses the predators,

but does not seem to affect the sheep.

Mr. Gerhardi has applied for patent rights on his defensive method, but it is dubious that these may be granted. Mothballs have been in common use for a long time, and the use of a suspending strap can hardly be considered an "invented device".

Prince George ranchmen who have tried the mothball repellent find it satisfactory, but say it takes too much time to "decorate" a sheep, and that the cost of the plastic bag and the suspending strap is too high. Also, the mothballs have to be replaced at frequent intervals, for they don't last long in the open air when they have to contend with the very definite odor inseparable from a big flock of sheep.

Warrior of the Crees

READERS of the Farm and Ranch Review who have enjoyed the interesting nature articles by Kerry Wood over the past few years, would also be interested in his latest book. It is called "The Great Chief", and gives a colorful historical account of Maskepetoon — the warrior of the Crees.

The author has drawn from both the National and Provincial archives for most of the accurate incidents that mark the change in the way of Indian life with the coming of the white man. He has spiced his account with unfamiliar details of the great men — both white and red — whose influence was felt across the Western Prairies. Young readers should be particularly interested in the period when Maskepetoon was developing into a great warrior with his tribe. Author Wood has given a vivid and authentic picture of how and where the Red Man lived before the coming of the Whites, and he has named a great many familiar landmarks across Alberta which retain their names today.

Readers may well understand the intense hunger of young Maskepetoon as he underwent a trial by fasting high on the Medicine Lodge Hills:

"He thought of buffalo tongues, boiled tender in the metal pot his father had obtained from white traders at Fort Edmonton. He remembered the flavor of lynx flesh and white breasts of grouse. Then there was rich marrow fat, sucked from bones of moose and buffalo roasted in a fire, and the gelatinous goodness of beaver tail. Most of all he craved drink: a hornful of brew made from the green-brown leaves of the Labrador plant, or the stronger tea traded from the White man."

These and other descriptions reflect in detail the nomadic life of the plains Indians, and form the colorful background to the incidents that are now part of our history.

The Great Chief is an interesting book and can be read in a

single winter's evening, and it would make an excellent Christmas gift to add to anyone's library. Readers may obtain copies at their local book stores for two dollars. It is published by the MacMillan Company of Canada. — Editor.



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AMMUNITION

Is there gold in silver cattle?

... The ranchers think so, and they're setting out to prove it!

by Julia Nelson

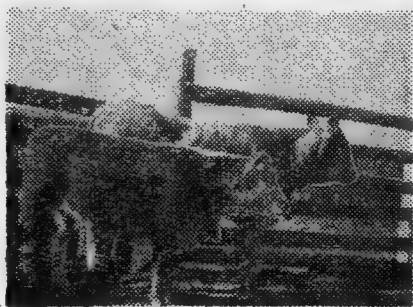
AS often as not when folks meet Max Malmberg these days they forget the traditional "How are the wife and kids?" and ask instead,

"How are the Charbarys coming?"

"How are the Charbarys coming?" Orville, Evan and Gordon, who own separate but adjoining spreads out in the Milk River Ridges, about ten miles east of Cardston, Alberta, have acquired individually during the last two years a total of nine Charbray and Charollaise (pronounced shar-o-lay) bulls, imported from the Clint Ferris Triple Horseshoe ranch at Tie Siding, Wyoming. All are from progeny, performance, and fertility tested sires.

Wayne was the first to venture, in the spring of 1955, when he imported a 15-month old Charbray bull and a yearling Charbray heifer to form what was then the nucleus of the first Charbray herd in Canada.

That same spring Max also brought in a Charbray bull, 14 months old, and in July, 1957

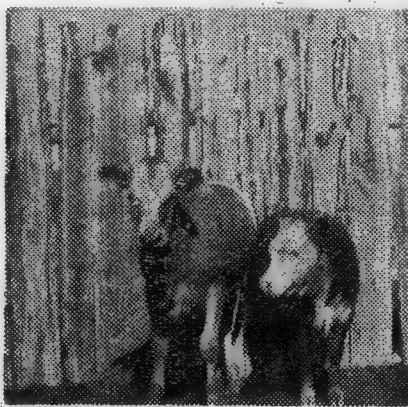


Some of the Malmberg stock, near Cardston, Alta. These three pictures give a good view from all sides for comparing a Hereford and a Hereford-Charollaise cross. The animals are the same age.

a registered C.I.C. (Certified Improved Charollaise) 23-month old bull.

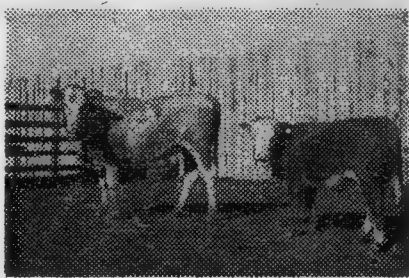
His experiment, still in the early stages, may in time provide Canadian beef breeders with some interesting data on performance testing in general, and on Charollaise cross breeding in particular.

Similar to most projects, this one did not materialize on the spur of a moment. Reflecting on the modern production and marketing of beef, and studying as all tradesmen do, the latest magazines and manuals on

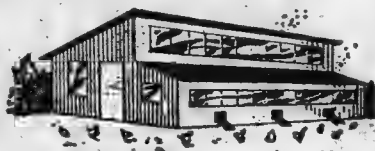


ers of Certified Improved Charollaise.

Mr. Malmberg believes the C.I.C. to be the most intelligent approach to the improvement of beef cattle. It was initiated by Clint Ferris along with a group of prominent cattle men and veterinarians from Colorado, Wyoming, Montana and Alberta. These men are attempting to correct mistakes of the old registration system. All cattle are eligible for registration only after they have made, on a specified ration, the high rate of gain and feed conversion efficiency set by the association. They must also pass a semen test and be of the desired conformation. All animals failing to meet these require-



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the subject, Mr. Malmberg had occasion to ponder seriously some of the rather important aspects of the subject.

Questions like these arose: twenty years ago my father sold mature cows off grass in July weighing 1,500 lbs. and now off this same range, and in spite of the careful selection of registered bulls, mine are averaging only 1,200 lbs. Why? Are the British breeds getting by too often on title and eye appeal? Are they making any effort to prove they're not?

It was in this frame of mind, then, that Mr. Malmberg began reading all the material he could get on the comparatively new American beef breed, the Charbray.

Charollaise cattle are a large (largest in the world) silvery white French breed, on which herd books have been kept since 1885. In France the cows weigh up to 2,000 lbs., bulls about 2,400. First imported to U.S. by way of Mexico the bulls were crossed with Brahma cows, thus the name Charbray.

From an imported foundation of less than a hundred, for Charollaise can not now be brought to the United States from France, thousands of U.S. cattle are carrying Charollaise blood. It has been selected by beef breeders because of the highly heritable characteristics of fast gain, high dressing percentage, great weight-for-age records, fine quality silky-textured meat well marbled with no thick overlay of waste fat, and the abundant milk-producing ability of the cows.

There is an American Charbray Breeders Association, an American and an International Charollaise Breeders Association, and now, since Dec. 26, 1956 the Association of Breed-

ments must be sold for slaughter. Thus, to quote their manual: "The fit are retained for improvement and the unfit are eliminated."

Mr. Malmberg has had two crops of calves from his first bull, a registered Charbray (which is $\frac{3}{4}$ Charollaise). Pandit Pierre, as Max called him, weighed 2,060 lbs. when he was 32 months old, the proud father of 32 husky yearlings and with another 45 heirs apparent. The cross he made with selected Hereford cows produced large vigorous calves, some with Hereford markings of lighter shade, and many of a light tan or golden cast. The next cross, with his new Charollaise bull will produce a straight silver-white strain.

With these cattle Max has taken the attitude: "This, (meaning the claims made for them in the American Breeds magazine) I gotta see!" So he has given them no preference in range or feeding treatment. It has been his custom to winter calves on the range with a supplement of 2 to 3 lbs. of grain each day along with hay and baled oats and barley straw.

In March, 1957 he picked from his 30 Charollaise Cross calves 9 head, and weighed them against 9 Hereford calves picked from a group of 120 of the same age and feeding conditions. His calves outweighed the Herefords by 93 lbs. per calf. Herefords weighed an average of 470 lbs., Charollaise 563. He considers that the bottom 9 of this 30 head would still outweigh the top of the 120 Herefords. Even at 16 cents per pound this would make a difference of \$9.50 per calf, which, in these days of rising production costs is not to be sneezed at.

On April 20th, 1957 Max sel-

ected 10 Charollaise Cross steers and put them on feed for an October market. So far they have made phenomenal gain. He plans to sell these direct to a packer and obtain for his records the all-important dress-out percentage and carcass grade.

While readily admitting all the draw backs of the rail grading market system he feels the present system also leaves much to be desired. All too often a steer in our auction ring would if sent through the same ring 4 times in a day bring 4 different prices. This fluctuation of price could mean as much as \$10.00 per animal to the producer.

The present day demand by the packer and retailer for carcasses with greater dressing percentage and higher red meat to fat ratio, can be filled only by a carcass evaluation, because not until cattlemen find that they will be paid more money for a better carcass, will they try to produce it.

On his 3-section range Mr. Malmberg runs about 250 cattle, and also farms 500 acres. He now has a total of 85 Charollaise cross animals on the ranch and as yet has offered none of these for sale. He plans to continue a selective breeding program, with C.I.C. bulls. He feels Charollaise cross breeding is the fastest approach to larger cattle, to better gain and feed conversion ability, to better dress-out weight, to better cut-up weight, to finer beef. This will benefit the producer, feeder, packer, retailer and consumer.



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Spruce Boughs, Mince Pies Gay Colors and Entertainment

by Annie L. Gaetz

MY friend talked as her needles clicked, and as the small sock she was knitting lengthened and her story unfolded, I could almost imagine I was back in the early days, sharing with her the pioneer experiences of the West. Her story ran something like this:

Celebration of Christmas in those long ago days in Alberta was much different than it is today. However, the home-made gifts and the few extra surprises that mother managed to tuck into our stockings, brought the same thrill to us as the expensive gifts bring to the children of today.

The day before Christmas we spent decorating the house with spruce boughs, while mother made mince pies, doughnuts, on Christmas Eve as in the gaily decorated modern homes of today.

What a thrill we got when we emptied our stockings on Christmas morning. We were pretty sure to get one or two sticks of striped candy, an apple, an orange and a pair of home-knitted mitts. In addition, for the girls there would likely be a rag doll, a cradle or some other home-made toy. For the boy, there would be a hobby horse, improvised from a broom stick and a piece of wood. Santa could make beautiful toys from, well, next to nothing in those days.

We were a large family, and for Christmas dinner we were sure to have roast prairie chicken, one for each of us, and a haunch of venison, as well as abundance of vegetables from the root house. In addition, there was always mince pies, doughnuts and raisin bread, or plum loaf as it was called then. It was a feast fit for a king, and there was always lots of laughter and merriment along with the dinner.

After the table was cleared away, if there was snow on the ground, we all piled into the sleigh, and with plenty of hay in the bottom to snuggle down in, we went calling on our neighbors. Since these were few and far between, that occupied our time until supper was ready. That was no problem for mother, for we just finished up the remnants from dinner. Later, neighbors dropped in to return our call, and we spent the evening singing hymns and old favorite songs, followed by tea, and mother's delicious plum loaf, and what a good time we had!

The day after Christmas, the Indians called on the white settlers. This was quite a settled custom. They knew that the white settlers had good things to eat at Christmas time,

and they wanted to share in it. They made family visits to each white settler where there was a woman to do the cooking. That meant that the party would consist of the old Indian and his wife and all their descendents, often twenty-five in all, would call on a settler who was expected to provide them with Christmas cheer of some sort. In my home, mother always made a wash boiler full of doughnuts, using beef dripping, in readiness for the visit. This was set in the middle of the kitchen floor, and a big stew kettle of tea and a dipper set beside it. The Indians grouped themselves in a circle around the boiler, and passed the dipper.

In addition to being fed, they always asked for a gift to take home with them. At our home, they always asked for and received a one-hundred-pound sack of flour.

When I was about six years old, my father went to Calgary, bringing back supplies and Christmas gifts. He brought me a pair of high black buttoned boots for Christmas. I had never seen a pair like them before, and I was sure there never was a pair so beautiful. They were the apple of my eye and the joy of my heart. They were far too beautiful to wear; but all day Christmas I treasured them and caressed them. When I knew that the Indians were arriving on their annual visit, I felt sure that if they saw my boots, they would ask for them as a gift instead of the flour. I took them to a clothes closet and piled everything I could move on top of them.

I was very much relieved when I saw the old Indian trudging down the trail, bending under the weight of the hundred-pound sack of flour. No until the last of the Indians had disappeared around the bend of the road, did I feel that my new precious boots were really safe.

A man who thinks marriage is a 50-50 proposition doesn't understand one of two things: Women or fractions.



"WE'RE IN A PLAY AND WANT TO MAKE SOME FIRST HAND OBSERVATIONS OF HORSE LIFE."

Water-pressure systems

A WELCOME addition to a rural living is the installation of running water for household and livestock use. Assuming that a good source of water is available this may be assured through a careful selection of pumps, pressure tanks and pipes.

The considerations to be kept in mind are daily requirements, yield of water at the source, depth to minimum water level, location of the system with respect to the buildings and the length and size of the discharge lines. Wells less than 25 feet deep are classified as shallow wells and those over 25 feet as deep wells.

Pumping equipment for shallow wells usually consists of a centrifugal pump, a single or double-acting reciprocating pump located directly over the well and may have a single or double acting, working barrel. Jet pumps may be installed in an off-set position in deep wells but the maximum lift for single stage models is 120 feet.

Make sure that the tank you select has enough capacity for your requirements. Normally a 42-gallon tank is sufficient for most water systems but larger tanks are required where livestock use the same source of supply or where well yields are low.

Pipe friction plays an important part in the design of a pressure system and the use of too small a pipe may cause an unnecessary high horse-power requirement.

North American cattle pool

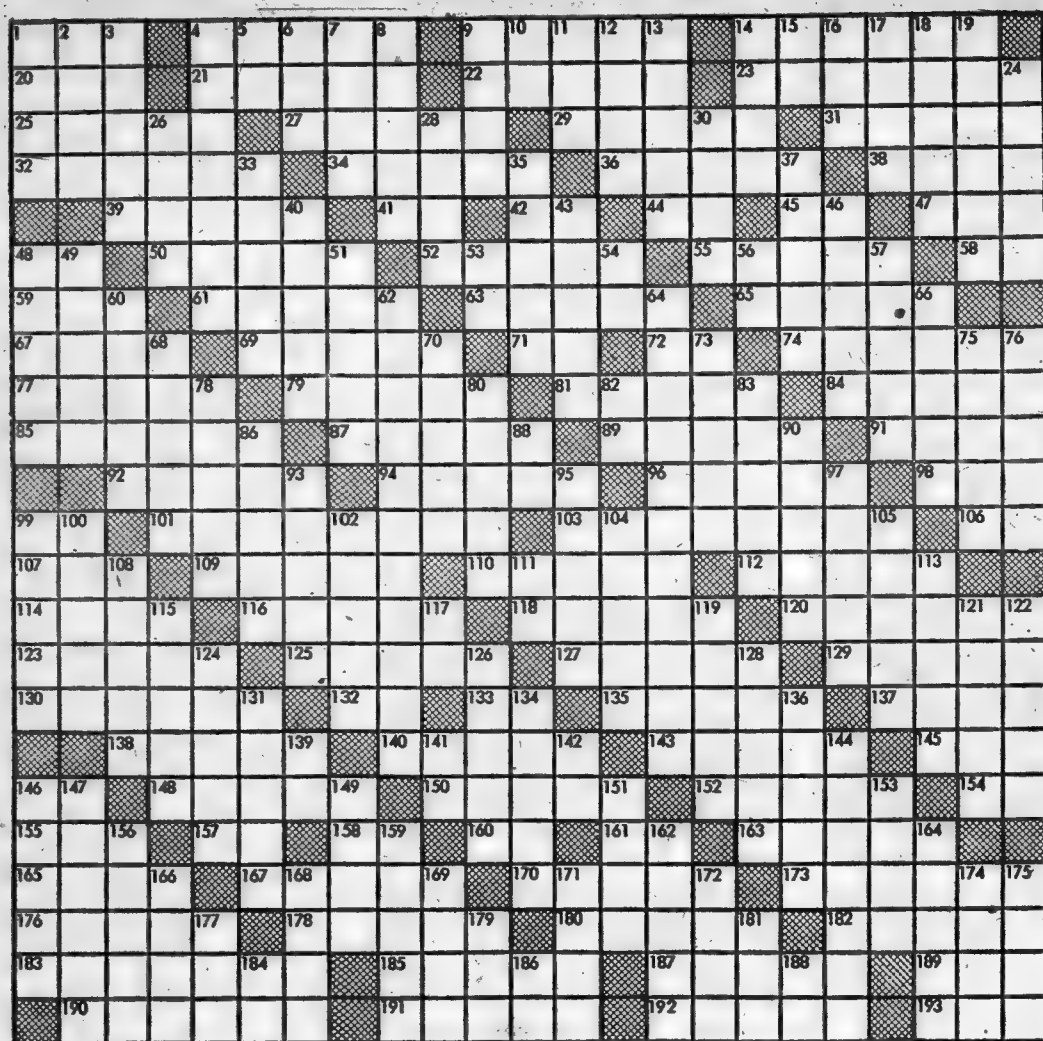
CANADIAN beef production is part of the North American cattle pool, and since 1948 when the border was re-opened for shipment to the United States, prices in Canada have been tied in a general way to U.S. price levels.

When Canada has a surplus, then beef cattle (or beef) are shipped to the United States as this is the highest priced market available. If prices in Canada rise above U.S. levels to the extent of the duty and shipping expenses then U.S. cattle move into this country.

This was the case the first part of this year when about 4,200 cattle came into Canada up to March 15. This meant, in effect, the price at Chicago, the largest cattle marketing centre in the United States, set the "ceiling".

On the other hand when Canada has a surplus and is exporting cattle, as has been the story since early in April, the Canadian cattle price tends to become the U.S. price less the cost of shipping cattle there. In other words the U.S. price provides a "floor" below which Canadian prices will not drop.

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 1 To sink
4 Casts off feathers
9 Sat for portrait
14 Dismay
20 Palm leaf (var.)
21 Cognizant of
22 To get up
23 Sewing implement (pl.)
25 Plant exudation
27 Lowest point
29 Part of wooden joint
31 Conform
32 Reveal
34 Jerks
36 Rends asunder
38 Pintail duck
39 Agitates
41 A direction
42 Exclamation of surprise
44 Pronoun
45 Printer's measure
47 Form of "to be"
48 Cases (abbr.)
50 Main artery
52 Wrongs
55 Colonist's greeting to Indian
58 State (abbr.)
59 Genus of lizards
61 Requires
63 Go in
65 Sadness
67 Male offspring (pl.)
69 Lets fall
71 Continent (abbr.)
72 Printer's measure
74 A sea nymph

- 77 Kills, as cattle, by piercing spinal cord
79 American Indians
81 Estimated
84 Look at fixedly
85 Kind of beetle
87 Heating implements
89 Is transported by
91 Quarrel
92 Makes noise like contented cat
94 Regions
96 Coin (pl.)
98 Sainte (abbr.)
99 River of Italy
101 A herder of certain low horned ruminants
103 Relying
106 Teutonic deity
107 Anglo-Saxon on coin
109 Faint
110 Reel
112 Catch in a gunlock (pl.)
114 Old Dutch liquid measure (pl.)
116 Foyer of a hotel
118 Pseudonym
120 Freshets
123 Sound of shod hoof on paving (pl.)
125 Decants
127 To change
129 Heating apparatus
130 City in Montana
132 Elder member of firm (abbr.)
133 Bone
135 Old world finch
137 Fencing sword

- 138 To run away
140 Juicy berry
143 Railway station
145 Finish
146 Symbol for iron
148 Unstratified deposit of loam
150 Fold end of cartridge case inward
152 Fail to follow suit in cards
154 Tensile strength (abbr.)
155 Perform
157 Child for "father"
158 Cooled lava
160 A direction
161 Musical syllable
163 Kind of race
165 Stroke in golf
167 Forms into a fabric
170 Horde
173 Part of coat
176 Citadel
178 Cloth measure (pl.)
180 Show backer
182 Feminine name
183 Ships which hunted certain fur bearers
185 Horse endowed with power of speech
187 Willow
189 To soak
190 Slow-moving creatures
191 Mediterranean vessel
192 Caudal appendages
193 Compass point

DOWN

- 1 Painful
2 Fish sauce
3 Struggles for breath
4 Large house
5 Exclamation of pain
6 Measure of Rangoon
7 Serving dish
8 Kind of car
9 Public recreation ground
10 Correlative of either
11 Occupy a seat
12 Danish weight (pl.)
13 Fabric in overalls
14 Girl's name
15 Hebrew letter
16 Edible seed
17 Sums up
18 S. American ruminant
19 Social outcasts
24 Spirited horse
26 Greek letter
28 Arrow poison
30 Chamber for baking
33 Made mistake
35 Part of leg (pl.)
37 Surgical thread
40 Cubic meter
43 Part of church
46 Burrowing creatures
48 Horns of the crescent moon
49 One impervious to pain or pleasure

- 51 Idolize
53 Brother of Odin
54 A direction
56 Man's nickname
57 Harbors
60 Open spigot of beer barrel
62 Variety of apple
64 Marked so as to resemble network
66 Harvests
68 Shoulder movement to express dislike
70 Spanish title
73 Citizens of ancient Media
75 Angry
76 Hinder
78 Gulf in the Aegean Sea
80 Hours of one's life
82 Land measure
83 Small depressions
86 Fracas
88 Symbol for selenium
90 Pigpens
93 Porch
95 Matrons' garment
97 Cookies
99 Trespass for game
100 Short papal cape
102 Tramps
104 Stirs up
105 Part of furnace
108 Soap plant
111 State (abbr.)
113 Excavation for removal of ore
115 To relieve
117 Period of time (abbr.)

- 119 Cape Verde negro
121 Occurrence
122 Plants
124 Fry about in meddlesome manner
126 Flies
128 More mature
131 In a vertical line (naut.)
134 Secret agents
136 Ninth day before the Ides
139 Plural ending
141 Red Cross (abbr.)
142 Letter of alphabet
144 Lever fitted to rudder-head (pl.)
146 Goes without food
147 Is sounded back
149 To cruise
151 Design
153 Celtic inhabitant of Ireland
156 Sand dune in Cornwall
159 Book of maps
162 Cant
164 Period of time (pl.)
166 A tissue
168 A headland
169 Scorched
171 To ebb
172 Tableland
174 Contends
175 Heraldry: grafted
177 Brazilian coin
179 Insect's egg
181 52 (Rom. num.)
184 Right line (abbr.)
186 Faroe Islands' windstorm
188 North Syrian deity

Canadian potato conference

THE first National Potato Conference in Canada was held this fall at the Ontario Agricultural College. The meetings were attended by about 275 potato growers and specialists from the various branches of the potato industry, including specialists from federal and provincial departments of agriculture.

Quality of potatoes and preservation of that quality until the product reaches the consumer was the chief subject of discussion. The importance of quality in retail sales was stressed. Today, it was pointed out, the housewife can examine everything on display and is quick to reject what fails to meet her standards. She is not interested in the reasons why potatoes are not good, only in whether they are or are not.

The type of potato which makes chips was discussed. Of major importance is a potato with the ability to produce crisp, tasty chips of light golden color.

Potatoes should be of a variety low in water content, which can easily be determined with a potato hydrometer. No one variety, it was said, is suitable for all areas or conditions. Maturity is a must for good chips. Immature potatoes will result in low yields of chips with a high oil content. During storage such chips will darken in color.

Proper fertilizing of potato lands is most important and the selection of proper chemicals should be properly gone into with competent authorities.

Barley feed to hogs

THE relationship between the market value of bacon hogs and the market value of feed barley is referred to as the hog-barley ratio. It indicates the increased returns for barley marketed through hogs instead of being sold as grain. The ratio is calculated by dividing the value of 100 pounds of live hog by the market price of barley. As a standard procedure the price of B₁ hogs (converted to the live price) and No. 1 feed barley are used.

In Manitoba the twenty-year average ratio shows 19.7 bushels of barley to be equal to the value of 100 pounds of live hog. The present relationship between grain and hog prices is slightly more favorable to the hog producer.

Quotations at \$24.75, plus approximately 50c premium, per 100 pounds dressed weight for B₁ hogs represent a figure of \$19.00 per 100 pounds on a live-weight basis. Using 90 cents per bushel as the elevator price for No. 1 feed barley the hog-barley ratio would be 21.7. This ratio represents a favorable position for the hog producer.

Solution On Page 30

... Pellets ...

ARGENTINE has become the biggest supplier of canned meats to the British market, passing Australia. Shipments were up over 58% compared to the year before.

THREE Manitoba communities have voted to take advantage of the provincial government's offer to help them establish libraries. Under this offer the government will give each regional library an establishment grant of \$10,000, and an annual grant of \$2,000 for each municipality participating in the regional scheme.

THE Canadian diet has changed considerably during the last 30 years. Wheat flour consumption has dropped from 178 pounds per person to less than 150 pounds. Potato consumption has declined to 141 pounds from 238 pounds. There has been an upward swing in the use of animal protein foods, especially poultry meats, and in canned fruits and vegetables.

A NEW \$36,000 Co-op. seed cleaning plant was opened this year at Lashburn, Saskatchewan. The plant will serve up to 500 farmers on an area of about 250,000 acres. Similar plants are located, in Saskatchewan, at Eston, Kindersly, Rosetown, Weyburn, Kyle, Cabri and Dinsmore.

THE 1957 toll of forest fires in Manitoba was only a fraction of that of 1956. Fires were restricted to 68,000 acres against 550,000 acres a year ago. While the summer was exceptionally hot, frequent showers were credited in fire control.

TESTS made during the last ten years on grey wooded soils in northeastern Saskatchewan show an increase in wheat of 16.7 bushels to the acre, and of oats 17 bushels to the acre, using 15 tons of barnyard manure to the acre.

TO-DAY'S tractor knows no season around the farm as each winter sees more tractors being used for snow ploughing, feed-hauling, and chores. A tractor for trouble-free operation, and protection must be properly winterized, as is a car. For the cooling system a winter thermostat, and a radiator shut-off control for a warming-up period, should be installed.

DUTCH imports of American cotton show a big increase this year. American cotton made up 51% of the imports as against 2% the year before. Mexico bore the brunt of the cut as the Dutch importers switched from Mexican to American cotton.

SEED supplies of Ramsey durum wheat should be adequate to meet Saskatchewan's farmer requirements this year according to R. E. McKenzie, director of the provincial plant industry branch. At a meeting to survey the needs and supply farmers were cautioned against paying high prices for seed of Ramsey durum and Parkland barley as it is felt there is no shortage of these seeds. Durum production is recommended for only the southern parts of the three prairie provinces.

FEED grain exports from the United States this year dropped off about 20% over a year ago.

SOUTH AFRICA is going to start a "Soil Bank" similar to the U.S. Soil Bank. The Department of Agriculture in South Africa says it will be designed to check deterioration of the soil and avoid cereal surpluses. The government will pay a subsidy on the establishment of grass leys and will make loans for buying livestock to eat the grass.

INDIA plans to accumulate two million tons of food grains as a reserve food supply. It is expected that by the end of the year there will be more than a million tons of wheat in reserve, as well as sufficient rice. A supplementary agreement for more imports from the U.S.A. under Public Law 480 is now being negotiated.

RUSSIA, under a three-year trade agreement, has agreed to buy between 45 and 55 million bushels of Canadian wheat. The purchases are to be made at the prices and on the terms at which the Canadian Wheat Board is making sales to its major customers. Shipments will be made from Vancouver, with most of them going to Vladivostok.

MUCH is heard these days about the coffee break, but a lot of time must be lost over tea-cups round the world. India, alone, this year has boosted its tea export by 10,000,000 lbs., to 433,300,000 lbs.

THE entire province of Ontario is now a Brucellosis-restricted area. Shipments of cattle to Ontario are subject to the Brucellosis regulations of that province. Cattlemen, and livestock commission men who ship to Ontario points should enquire about the necessary requirements so that shipments will not be detained enroute.

POULTRY flock inspections this year in Alberta will be carried out until December 31st. Pullorum testing and the inspection of hatching egg flocks will be carried out on about 370,000 birds.

THE Soviet Union in recent radio broadcasts says that it has overtaken Canada and the United States in the production of wheat, and now leads the world. No production figures were given.

BEE and wasp stings are not to be taken lightly. According to the British Medical Journal thirty-five deaths were caused in England and Wales during a five-year period to 1955 from the stings of these insects. Twenty-four of the victims had been stung by wasps.

THE number of turkeys on Canadian farms at June 30th this year was 5.2 million, a ten per cent increase over the 4.8 million of the year before. Considerable increase was shown in the prairie provinces, due, it is thought, to farmers attempting to find a further outlet for surplus grain.

THE Board of Grain Commissioners are concerned with the amount of small stones found in grain samples and particularly in malting barley. This condition is caused by combines picking up stones during threshing, breaking them into small pieces which cannot be cleaned out by the regulation sieves.

SOME of the highlights of world crop production for the past year are as follows: Wheat, slightly lower production; coarse grains, considerably increased production; rice, a new production record; sugar, consumption greater than production resulting in a near doubling of price; meat, a new production record; dairy products, a bigger production, especially in Russia; wool, production was up about 30% over that of the past ten years; rubber, consumption exceeded production; fish and forest products were about the same as the previous year.

OFFICIAL figures place Canada's sheep and lamb population at 1,661,000 as of June 1, 1957. This is an increase of 2½% over the previous year. Alberta showed an increase of 7.7% with their total of 450,000 head—larger than the sheep numbers in any other province.

ACCORDING to U.S. Agricultural Services, an average cow will eat the equivalent of two tons of dried hay during the growing season. That much feed removes from the soil 550 lbs. of sulphate of ammonia, 230 lbs. of 30% superphosphate, 180 lbs. of 50% muriate of potash, and 50 lbs. of hydrated lime.

IN 1956 Canada imported 189,335,780 pounds of vegetable oils. During this year Canada produced 28 million pounds of vegetable oils, or about 10% of the total seeds used in margarine. Here is a challenge to Canadian producers; a ready home market in oil seeds suitable for edible purposes.

CANADA'S meat exports have dropped sharply this year. The reasons given are a slight drop in production and relatively high meat prices, although a strong demand continues. In the first half of the year exports dropped by 35% compared with the same period last year.

JAPAN is going to buy nearly fifty million dollars worth of U.S. surplus farm products among which are to be 380,000 tons of wheat, 80,000 tons of barley and 100,000 bales of cotton.

A NEAR record high grain crop has been harvested by farmers in Turkey. Wheat production is estimated to be about 275,000,000 bushels.

FOR those who are concerned about it, the world's top geophysicists have agreed on a figure for the earth's age. Uranium deposits were the main factor required in arriving at a reasonable figure. Give or take a few million years either way, they say, the earth is 4½ billion years old.

ACCORDING to the last population census there were 3,711,500 families in Canada. The average size, with both parents, was 3.9. The average age of husbands was 43 and of wives 39. There were 221,556 children under 14 years of age with only one parent at home.

THE RCMP handled 226,891 cases, in Canada, last year; an increase of 34.8 over the previous year. Alberta, with 24 more cases, had the smallest increase; British Columbia, with 3,192 more cases, had the greatest increase. The force's strength at last March 31st was 6,680.

ACREAGE under tobacco in Canada was increased this year, but there was still a 20-million-pound drop from last year's production. This year Cana-

dian farmers grow about 135 million pounds of flue-cured tobacco.

THE world increase in agricultural production is keeping slightly ahead of population increase, and it is expected the trend will continue for the next year or so at least. The rate of 1957 population growth is estimated at 1.6% and the increase in agricultural production about 3%.

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Life in the Old West

Historic landmarks of Poplar Point



A fine example of the stonemason's craft, the old home on the Lee place is still a sturdy and impressive building, as seen by the traveller along the Trans-Canada Highway.

Farm and Ranch Photo.

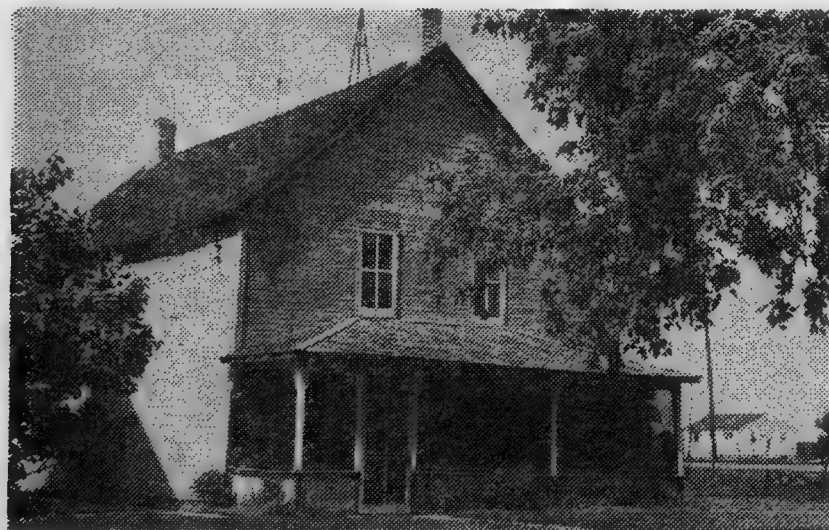
IGNORING the age-old Indian trails and leaping the river-highways of the past, the broad new Trans-Canada Highway has carved its way through the heart of some of Western Canada's most historic districts.

A rising generation of young Canadians speeds along the burning pavement, unconscious of the early history that was written in the now prosperous farming areas on either side.

Not the least of these is Portage la Prairie, which is, of course, French for Prairie Portage. It was also named by Thompson — the map-maker of fame—as Meadow Portage, and by another, Plain Portage. But

whatever it was called, it gained what fame it achieved in the early days by its convenient geographic location. For here it was that the fur traders crossed most conveniently from one of the earliest of the Nation's highways — the Assiniboine River — to Lake Manitoba.

The locality is mentioned by La Verendrye in his journal of 1739 as a carrying place for the Indians who moved on their trading expeditions from the Assiniboine over to Lake Manitoba on the long trek to Hudson Bay. It was once one of the chief trading posts of the early French in the West until the cession of Canada from France

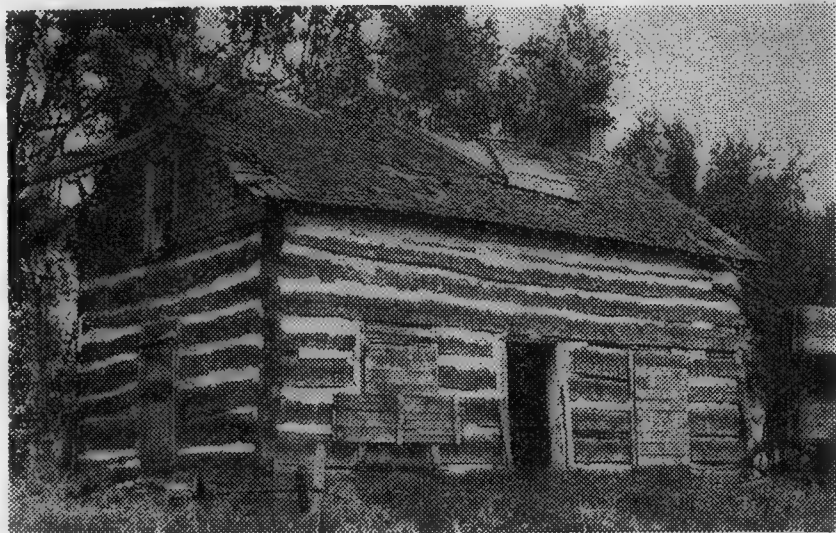


Its hand-hewn oak beams hidden by modern siding, the Hudson's Bay post and first building ever to go up at Poplar Point is still in use.

Farm and Ranch Photo.

numbers roar through this small community; few realize that they are passing through a district which was literally the gateway to the West. If they would but pause they might see some of the old landmarks not destroyed by the march of progress.

There were no great battles fought at Poplar Point, and no



The original homestead on the old Lee place was visited by a band of Sioux Indians who were fleeing from the United States following the Custer massacre. It still stands, but is hidden from the highway by newer buildings.

Farm and Ranch Photo.

to Great Britain. To-day's city stands spread along the wide new highway at the south end of the portage where LaVerendrye built a fort in 1739, but modern buildings and a growing population have wiped out most of the landmarks of the early days.

But not so far away — 15 miles to the west — along the sides of the new highway is the centre of Poplar Point — a quiet community that has resisted change. Yet, Poplar Point

discoveries of national importance, but still standing are buildings that went up in the era of the fur trade, the Indian troubles, and the expeditions to the unexpected West.

It was at least 125 years ago that the first building in the district was built. Early traders of the Hudson Bay Company hewed planks from native oak and erected a solid trading post in what is now the centre of Poplar Point. This building still stands,

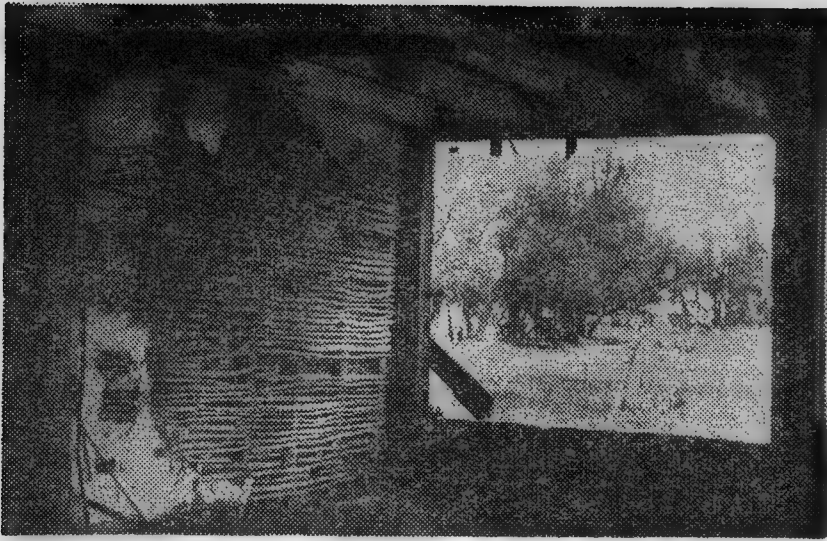


What is left of the livery barn and bar-room of the pioneer staging house in historic Poplar Point. The barn is tumbling down on the left, and the small pile of boards on the right is what is left of the bar-room. Oldtimers of the area recall the soldiers marching through the area on the way to the Riel Rebellion, sleeping in the barn, drinking in the bar-room and eating in the staging house, out of the picture to the right.

Farm and Ranch Photo.

has something that the nearby bigger cities couldn't buy. That is, some tangible evidence of the pioneer days when the great explorers and traders were still using Portage la Prairie for a stopping-off place. As today's travellers in their increasing

although the old oak planking is hidden by modern siding material, and it is currently the home of Mrs. Hextall (the mother of Brian Hextall, formerly of the New York Rangers). It was constructed in Red River style and served as the warehouse to



Just west of Poplar Point the Sam Bannerman homestead may still be seen from the highway and is almost a text-book of pioneer construction. This view shows an interior wall with the lathing of split willows, bought from the Indians, and the clay plaster.

Farm and Ranch Photo.

store the skins that were brought in by the trappers from along the shores of Lake Manitoba. It also held the supplies of the staff and a goodly stock of whiskey, for which reason the windows used to be heavily barred. The post was in business long before the Mounted Police had arrived and there was no law in the area at the time.

The second building to go up in Poplar Point is also still standing, although showing its age, and may be seen by travellers on the south side of the highway about a mile west of town . . . on the property of old-timer Sammy Fidler. It was located on the next height of land to the west of the Hudson Bay height of land, and was hand built by Sam Bannerman around 1860-1870. Bannerman settled there with his wife and raised a large family of 7 boys and 6 girls. Only two survive today; Charlie is living in Winnipeg and a daughter travels about and visits with her grandchildren. The old house was last lived in about 1909 but at one time was not only the home but was the headquarters for a thriving mixed farm. The cattle herd reached 70 in number before the turn of the century.

Mr. Bend recalls how the Sioux Indians, fresh from the famous Custer massacre fled across the border into Manitoba. Many of them settled for a time just south of the Bannerman place, but they were continually harried by the Red Lakes Indians who were said to have been paid \$10 a scalp (rumoured from the U.S. Govt.) to wipe out the Sioux. He relates how one young Indian boy was caught and scalped as he gathered hay just 3,400 yards south of the Bannerman homestead.

Travellers who take the time can see a virtual text-book of pioneer carpentry by examining this old building. The crumbling walls are made of hand-hewn native oak which was the virgin wood found on the property. The heavy planks and beams were shaped by axe and dove-tailed into one another for maximum strength. Even the window sills and door frames were carefully shaped by axe to fit. The interior walls which remain partly intact, had been lathed with split willows that had been bought in bundles from the Indians, and the lathing was covered with mud plaster and whitewashed.

Nellie McLung mentioned in

her book, "Clearing in the West," that on her way from Winnipeg west she had spent the night in a place just west of Poplar Point, and probably this is the place.

It was about the same period that another homesteader went into business a little further west of the Bannerman place, about three miles from the town. That is the property familiarly known as the Gowler home, and is now owned by Mrs. Bertha Lee. This homestead also had a visit from more of Chief Sitting Bull's warriors who fled across the Canadian border after the series of massacres in the United States. Once the Indians crossed the Assiniboine River with the Red Lakes Tribe hot on their heels, they paid a visit to the homestead now owned by Mrs. Lee. From there they moved further north where they finally made a stand and fought at least two battles. Sioux Pass was named at that time.

Travellers on the Trans-Canada highway can not quite see the crumbling old homestead on the Lee place as it lies hidden behind more modern buildings. It still stands all right, but its ancient roof has collapsed under the weight of a fallen tree.

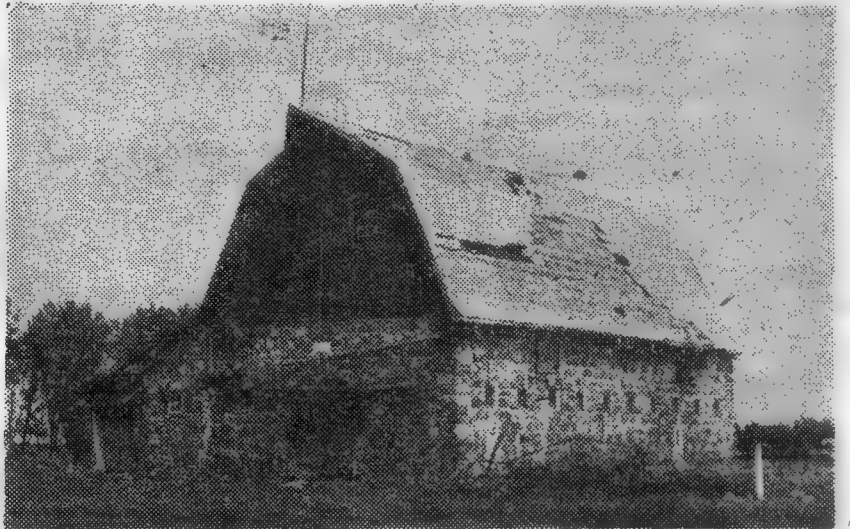
However, travellers should be watching for the "new" build-

window styles, while nearby may be seen the crumbling remains of the big livery barn where the horses were kept as the staging house. Between and behind these two is what is left of the separate bar-room.

Old-timers of the district can tell of marching through Poplar Point about the time of the Riel Rebellion and sleeping in the livery barn and eating at the staging house. The separate bar-room — and possibly justly so — was the first of these buildings to wear out and tumble in ruins. It is now just a small pile of old lumber waiting to be cleared out for proposed new buildings.

These are just some of the relics that exist in the tiny community of Poplar Point today . . . and which may be seen by the traveller who will just pause in his journey. Unless steps are taken to the contrary, they will be allowed to tumble into ruins, and disappear forever from this changing world. But while they stand, they remain a tangible monument to the pioneers who first travelled the untracked vastness of the early West.

Visitors from areas of more dramatic history may still have to come to Poplar Point to see existing physical evidence of an earlier era, which they did not



The splendid old stone barn on the Lee place still stands after a half-century, although it was severely damaged in a recent cyclone.

Farm and Ranch Photo.

ings which hide the old, and which were built on the property by D. T. Setter in 1909. They are fine examples of the mason's craft. The big dairy barn was damaged beyond economic repair by a cyclone in 1955, but the house which was built in 1910, and is now occupied by Mrs. Lee, is still in excellent shape. It is made of hand picked and cut stone, and could hold its own in beauty of line and strength of construction with any homes being built today.

One of the most interesting old structures that may be seen from the highway is right in the heart of Poplar Point. This is the old staging house that went up some time after the building of the Hudson Bay post, and it stands only a block east of the post itself. The early staging house looks its weather-beaten age with its unusual gables and

have the foresight to preserve themselves.

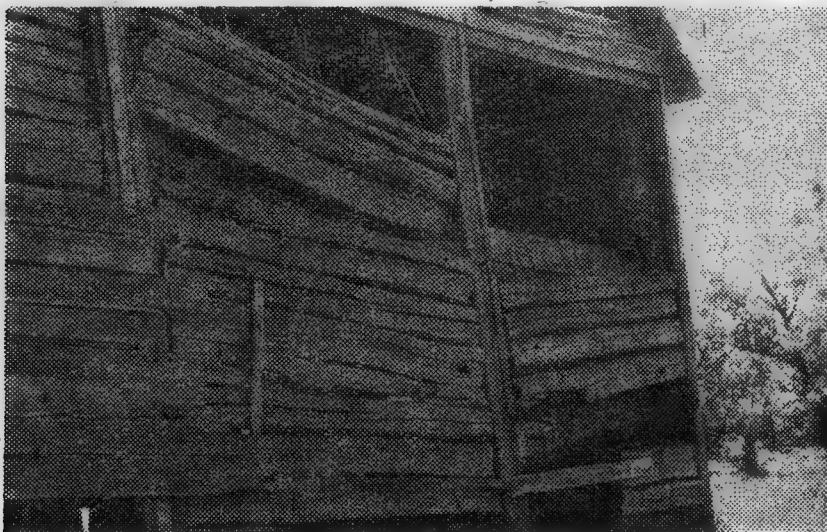
1957 Bursary winners

THIS year's winners of the Henry Wise Wood Memorial Bursaries, awarded each year by the Alberta Wheat Pool in memory of the late H. W. Wood, all of whom must be members or former members of Alberta 4H clubs, are as follows:

Olds School of Agriculture: Dorothy J. Marryat, of Alix, Alberta, and Steve Hadnagy, Bow Island.

Vermilion School of Agriculture: Kenneth R. Stiles, Didsbury, Alta., and Mary Schwartz, Darwell, Alta.

Fairview School of Agriculture: Charles W. White, of Rio Grande, Alta., and Nina Cuira, Codesa, Alta.



An outside wall of the Sam Bannerman place — the second oldest building of Poplar Point. All planks and beams are hewed from native oak and shaped by axe to dovetail together. It was only a few hundred yards from here that the Red Lakes Indians caught and scalped a young Sioux after the Custer massacre.

Farm and Ranch Photo.

Clearing brush with livestock

BEEF cattle can help with brush clearing. Using stock this way may be a profitable way to handle some of our cheaper land which has little value unless cleared. Certainly the tremendous job of hand root picking can be cut to a minimum by livestock clearing.

An example is shown by Wm.

Troutman & Son, of Rimbey, Alberta, who had 80 acres of heavy poplar bush cut and piled at \$15 an acre. After burning, this land was overgrazed with 80 - 90 cattle for about five years. This ensured that all underbrush was eaten down in late summer and nearly 100% kill of native poplar and willow, with good rotting of stumps and roots. This summer a tractor with rubber front tires and steel in the back was employed to pull

an ordinary low beam 22" brush plow. The land was quickly and easily broken and any old trees or roots piled and burned. Mr. Troutman is convinced that the total cost was only half the usual \$30 - \$40 an acre.

Fifteen miles south of Ponoka, Alta., Fred Key & Son followed much the same procedure, but seeded grass and clover and worked it into the roots and stumps with a big discer. A good catch of grass was estab-

lished which furnished pasture for one mature cow per acre from 1 - 2 months every summer. Good economic use has been made of the land and it will soon be ready to break.

Still another farmer — Jack Hendrichson, of the Hoadley-Bluffton District of Alberta, seeds ahead of his brush cutter in heavy stands of large poplar trees. In this way he is able to use the land for grazing while he takes off a few acres of lumber for sale every year. In this case, also, cattle can keep the brush down to a minimum and turn cheaper land to profit.

Winter shelter for beef cattle

OPEN-FRONT sheds for cattle are considered an advantage in wintering livestock, but the Experimental Farm at Brandon now has some figures to prove it.

For many years Brandon has used an open-front shed with single-boarded frame walls and a straw-covered pole roof, for wintering the beef breeding herd. A group of animals showed little weight change during the wintering period from November to April. Thirty-four cows averaged about 11 pounds per head loss during the winter. On the other hand, the corresponding average loss for 21 head wintered in a stanchion barn was 19 pounds per head. In both groups the oldest and the youngest cows showed the greatest loss in weight.

These figures show that protection from cold winds and falling snow, and a dry bed on which the animals can lie, will give satisfactory results. Such elementary comforts should be assessed from the standpoint of adequacy of accommodation, ease of handling stock, cost of construction and durability.

Bushel measure to remain

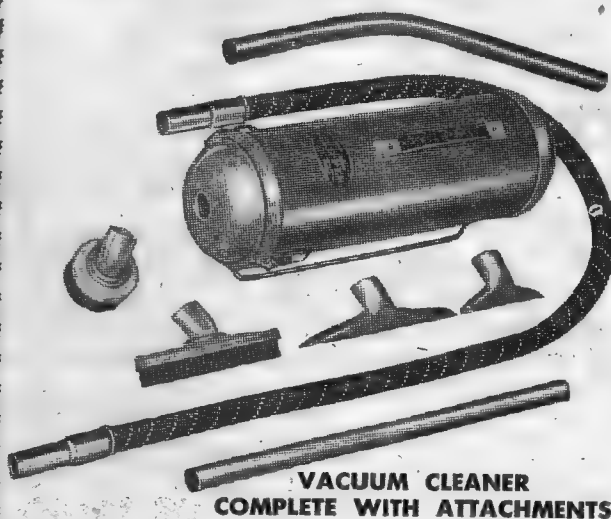
SINCE Canada is not likely to change from the bushel measure to CWT measure until the United States does, the bushel will hold sway for some time yet. It was thought that the United States department of agriculture might make the switch in handling its 1958 Credit Commodity grain operations since the department had been considering such a move for some time. However, it has been announced that no change will be made for the present.



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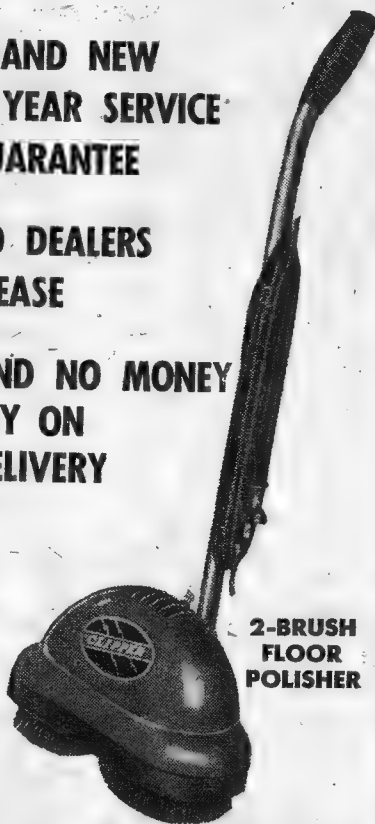


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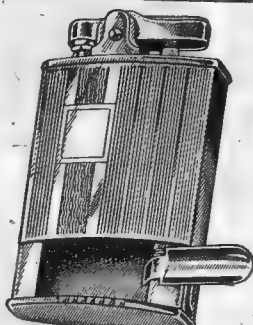
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Records take guesswork out of selection

... Simple records of sow and litters may point the way to the big cash profits

A CHAIN is as strong as its weakest link, and a farmer's profits may climb no higher than his breeding stock will permit. Swine breeders are taking a chance when they select their breeding stock by sight alone. In last month's Farm and Ranch Review a method of ear-notching to identify young pigs was described, but this operation is almost a waste of time unless it is followed up by a system of records. Only a comparison of the complete performance records of potential breeding stock should be the basis for selection and culling practices. The most important economic factors in hog production are: (1) fertility, (2) livability, (3) growth rate, (4) efficiency of feed utilization and (5) carcass merit, and there is no substitute for accurate records in correlating these factors. Records identify both the pigs that should be kept and multiplied as superior producers, and those that should be culled as inferior.

Advanced registry information can be useful to a breeder, but it is no substitute for the adequate records which must also be kept at home where the breeding stock will ultimately be selected. The purpose of the record in any swine breeding program is to determine the performance of each animal in a herd with regard to economically important traits. The most important records to keep are: (1) identification, (2) birth dates and perhaps birth weights, (3) weaning weights at 8 weeks, (4) age to market weight, or approximately 200 pounds, (5) type or conformation score at or near 200 pounds, and (6) market grades. Only the type record is based on simple judgment, but the two main considerations here are: (1) appraisal of market acceptability, and (2) appraisal of general soundness and vigor. This type score naturally has certain limitations but may be useful where carcass merit is not available.

The accompanying sample record forms are self explanatory. At notching soon after birth, the ear notch, sex and birth weight are entered. At weaning, each pig is weighed individually. Weaning weight should be taken at a standard age if comparisons are to be valid. If pigs are weaned at

other than 8 weeks, weaning weights should be recorded at that time. The date at which each pig reaches market weight at 200 pounds should be recorded, and this is also a convenient time to judge for type and conformation on an arbitrary scale of one to ten.

The swine breeder who selects on the basis of his records has several distinct advantages over the farmer who doesn't. He is steadily increasing his herd with every selection. He is in a position to suddenly expand his operations to meet a great demand on the market merely by selecting the best of his next litter, for future brood sows. He can immediately pick out the weak points of his operation; loss of young pigs; slow rate of gain; too many low grades; litters too small etc. He is in the very best position to take advantage of any advances in feeding, management and disease control that develop within the industry.

And, perhaps above all... the man who keeps efficient records is the type of farmer who runs an efficient operation from top to bottom. He is running his farm the way any good business should be run, and he knows where he's going.

Dam <u>203 J</u>					Sire <u>74 J</u>				
Birth date of dam <u>July 5, 1954</u>					Birth date of litter <u>Jan. 20, 1956</u>				
Ear Notch	Sex	Birth Weight	8 Wks. Weight	Date At Market Weight	Type Score	Age To Market Weight	Market Grade	Remarks	
0	F	1.5	21	Aug 8	8	201	A		
1	F	2.7	33	July 11	9	173	A		
2	F	2.3	29	July 18	8	180	A		
3	F	2.7						Died Jan 23	
4	F	2.4	35	July 11	8	173	A		
5	M	2.4	33	July 4	8	166	B ₁		
6	M	2	32	July 11	7	173	B ₁		
7	M	2.6	33	June 22	8	159	A		
8	M	2.7	32	June 27	7	159	B ₁		
9	M	2.5	33	June 27	8	159	B ₁		
OX	M	1.7						Died March 2	
1X	M	2.7	33	July 4	8	166	B ₁		
2X	M								

LITTER RECORD FORM

Sow No.	Litter Sire	Litter No.	Litter Birth Date	Sow Age In Mths	Pigs Born Alive	Pigs Weaned	Total Litter Weaning Wt.	Av. Age To Market Weight	Av. Type Score	Market Grades
496	111E	1	Feb. 7, '53	12	10	10	304	201		2 kept 8 unknown
	518E	2	Sept. 3, '53	19	14	12	270	245		2 kept 5 unknown 1 died
	30H	3	Sept. 14, '54	31	8	7	264	284		6 unknown
	394J	4	May 5, '55	39	17	15	403	203	6.0	1A, 1B, 3 kept 5 unknown
	24J	5	Oct. 16, '55	44	11	10	437	165	8.3	3A, 7 kept
	74J	6	Mar. 28, '56	50	14	8	199	183	7.0	4A, 4B

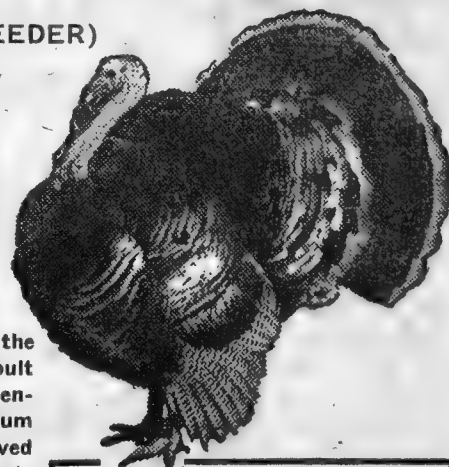
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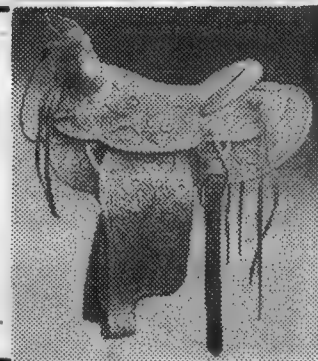
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Aunt Sal

*Wishing You a Happy
Blessed Christmas*

*Some favor candles for Christmas,
Some choose bells and wreaths
and such;
To me the dear old Christmas
tree
Is the symbol I love so much.*

VARIOUS ways of celebrating the yuletide in far distant lands has always fascinated me. So when Scandinavians tell me of their method of having all their merrymaking circling round the mammoth ceiling-high tree in their living rooms it really excites me. My family was of English extraction, but we, too, always emphasized the presence of a tree in the living room and though, unlike our Norse friends we didn't let it remain there for a thirteen-day period, we as children hated to see it dismantled and missed its presence woefully.

When I was a bride, our first tree was rather a skimpy one for I didn't realize that a tree called for so much decoration. But each year after that I

gathered some more fussy fixings and each year it "bore more fruit." Year after year we cached away the accumulated spoils and tradition began to play its part . . . and so we'd exclaim with delight as we unwrapped the trimmings, "Oh, there's the glass Santa Claus."

Three years ago I made a big decision . . . or it seemed big to a person as sentimental as I am. I decided not to put up a big tree but to buy a little artificial one. I'll admit I made this decision because there was no one to help me trim the tree any more. (Fine as husbands are they're not addicted to tree trimming). And if there's one job that should be shared it is tree-trimming. And so I shopped for a make-believe tree. It had to look real . . . no silly blue ones for me. And so I found one with a wire framework and covered with boughs of green, feathery substance that looked like the real McCoy. It was sturdy enough to hold



On Christmas morning surprise the small fry in your family with "something new" in a rag doll. Other gift suggestions for little girls or boys: Cotton flannel sleepers with built-in slippers and corduroy robes. For Big Sister: A polished cotton robe with quilted collar and cuffs.

the angel on its topmost branch and lights could be snuggled throughout its boughs and a few shiny geegaws and sparkly stuff. I gave away the remainder of the trimmings that had graced former big trees, and I like to think that other children are squealing with delight, "Oh, there is the Bethlehem star . . . Oh, there is the Santa Claus."

Already I've become very attached to this miniature symbol of Christmas and after the yuletide is over I fold the wire framework back into its container and there it is all dust free and neat until next year. Unless I live to be a very old, old lady, I think it will serve me well for the remainder of my life span.

Christmas time is synonymous with good eating. I expect most of you home cooks have a fistful of recipes that you feel just go hand in hand with this particular time of the year. High on the favored list is the rich fruit cake, plum pudding, mince pies, home-made candies, shortbread, just to name a few. In the space below, I'll place a few that are favorites with me and mine. Possibly there may be a few that you'd like to try, too.

MINCEMEAT COOKIES

- 1 cup shortening
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1 cup white sugar
- 3 eggs (beaten)

- 3 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 cup mincemeat
- 1 tsp. baking soda
- 1/8 tsp. ginger
- 1 tsp. cloves
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1/2 cup chopped nuts

This is a drop cookie and they're placed on a greased cookie sheet and baked in 375° F. oven for about 12 minutes.

I made these from my own green tomato mincemeat and when I opened a quart jar of this I left plenty to make an 8-inch pie or quite an array of little tarts.

FRUIT BALLS

- 1 cup marshmallows (cut fine)
- 1/2 cup dates dropped
- 1/2 cup heavy cream (or undiluted canned cream)
- 1/2 cup chopped walnuts
- Candied cherries.

Mix and let stand a few hours. Form into tiny balls and roll in Graham cracker crumbs or cocoanut.

PEANUT MACAROONS

(as good as candy)

- Whites of 2 eggs beaten stiff
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 2 cups cornflakes
- 1 cup peanuts
- 1/2 tsp. salt

Drop from spoon onto greased pan and bake in 350° F. oven for about 20 minutes.

Bye bye for now Aunt Sal.



The tree need not reach to the ceiling to give that real Christmasy feeling, says Farm and Ranch Review's Aunt Sal, who is seen here happily decorating a small Christmas tree. Photo by Lloyd Knight.

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Aunt Sal Suggests..

*As Christmas Day approaches,
We bake and cook and brew;
But other jobs must claim us,
I know you feel it too.*

I HAVE a confession to make . . . and I'd better make it right now. I lost a letter that came to me recently from away up in the Peace River country. It was in answer to the query from a woman who was trying to locate the pattern of a Siwash sweater depicting an oil derrick on it. One woman wrote that she had such a pattern . . . but you see I mislaid her letter. Will that woman please write again and I'll make good the extra postage. In a feeble excuse for my negligence I'll remind you that I sometimes receive 3,000 letters per year so occasionally one letter does go astray.

Q.: Can you supply the recipe for Red River Bannock? (Repeat.)

A.: (Kindly submitted by Mrs. J. B.)

RED RIVER BANNOCK

- 3 cups flour
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. soda
- 1 heaping tsp. baking powder

Sift all these together. Work in one tblsp. shortening (as for pie crust). Add enough buttermilk to make stiff dough. Place in loaf tin and let rise for 20 minutes. Bake in moderate oven for 45 minutes. Note: — This makes an excellent substitute for bread.

Q.: How do you make cottage cheese that is dry and crumbly? (Repeat.)

A.: (Submitted by Mrs. E. C., Sundre, Alta.) I have made cheese and more cheese and experience tells me that you must be sure to let the milk sour until one can cut it with a knife otherwise it will be rubbery. I let mine boil a few minutes, then drain it through a sock. This makes it dry and crumbly.

Q.: How do you prevent a blonde leather purse from darkening? (Repeat.)

A.: Many comments came in on this question. Opinion is divided for some think it improves the appearance of the leather and others do not. One lady wrote me that she procured a bottle of liquid that places a nice protective finish on the leather, which discourages discoloring. She procured it from this firm: Aristocrat Products Co., P.O. Box 689, Tucson, Arizona.

Q.: At a recent tea at my home I served cookies made from one of your recipes (giving you full credit) and one of my guests wondered if you could locate an old-time recipe from her childhood named "Nuggets". — (Mrs. W. S. H., Minnedosa, Man.)

A.: NUGGETS

- 1/3 cup peanut butter
- 2/3 cup shortening
- 1 cup sugar
- 3 eggs (beaten)
- 1/2 cup sweet milk
- 2 cups cake flour
- 1/2 tsp. flour
- 1/2 tsp. soda
- 2 cups rolled oats
- 1 cup raisins
- 1 cup chopped dates
- 1 cup chopped nuts

I don't think any instructions are needed. You bake in oven 375° F. for about 15 minutes. Note: I imagine the old-time recipe didn't call for peanut butter, so if you wish you can allow 1 whole cup of ordinary shortening. I think these would be nice enough for your yuletide serving, don't you? You might add a little more fruits and top with a candied cherry.

Q.: Can you locate a loom for weaving carpets and rugs for me? I would prefer a second-hand loom in good condition. — Mrs. Nellie F. Sinek, 2236 Atkins Ave., Port Coquitlam, B.C.

A.: I like to help any woman accomplish their various handicrafts so if anyone can be of help write this woman . . . don't write me.

Q.: Recently on one of the farm papers I read that there was a doll hospital located in Leth-

bridge. Is that so? — Mrs. M. K., Nobleford, Alta.

DOLL HOSPITALS

A.: No I know of none in Lethbridge, but according to my latest information on this there is a doll hospital at 444 - 11th Street, Medicine Hat, Alta.

Q.: Recently I found a formula for tenderizing meat and it is made up of papain water and glycerine. Can you tell me what papain is and where one would buy it? — (Mrs. N. L., Mayerthorp, Alta.)

A.: No, I never heard of it, but druggists are very smart men and I would think that if anyone could tell you they could.

Q.: I am looking for a recipe for "green soup" that is made of many green things from the garden, especially dill. (Repeat.)

A.: There was a splendid response on this question which first appeared in the October issue. But none of the recipes stated exact amounts until this recipe came in from a lady (A. S., Radio station CKRM, Regina, . . . this paper gets around, eh?)

GREEN BORCHT

- 2 qts. cold water
- 4 sprigs of dill
- 4 sprigs of parsley (cut up)
- 1 bay leaf
- 4 allspice buds
- 1 onion

To this add beet cut shoe strings, new green beans, new potatoes, peas, carrots and beet tops. Boil gently then add 2 tblsp. barley (some added rice instead) till all is tender. Just before

serving add 1 1/2 cups sour cream. This lady's comment is: "I like my soup pink so I add a small beet cut up fine with one tblsp. vinegar."

Mrs. R. H. B., Vermilion, who originally sent in this question, wanted to know if it could be canned for winter use and how. This is the way

CANNED SOUP

Mix all vegetables together and cook about 15 minutes, then pack loosely into sterilized jars, process 3 hours in hot-water bath, or about 45 minutes in pressure cooker with ten pounds pressure. When opening food, boil about 15 minutes then add the cream before serving.

Note: Send your household questions to Aunt Sal, in care of Farm and Ranch Review, Box 620, Calgary, Alberta.

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CANADIAN NATIONAL

Christmas Consternation

by J. D. Kerr

WHEN we were children the annual rural Christmas concert was an event that ranked second only to Christmas itself.

To the teachers, of course, it was agonizing torture, filled with the horrors of missing costumes, forgotten lines, an unexpected case of measles, severe fits of shyness (carefully sublimated the rest of the school year) and voices which hitherto threatened to bring down the school roof during recesses now suddenly withering away into faint whispers.

But to us it meant a few wonderful weeks when our lack of interest in the multiplication

tables was not struggled against with the same intensity as was customary. It was a blissful era when "what is the capital of Australia?" was overshadowed by our ability to stand in a straight line, "Gerald, you can't sing with gum in your mouth," eyes front, tummies in, "Please straighten those shoulders, Helen," and "Now all together — 'We Merry Christmas Bells!'" We bells were a discordant lot; our merry peals unmerry, asthmatic, lisping muffled, blaring, shrill and recess-minded. But we sang lustily, uneasily bearing in mind our dubious familiarity with the capital of Australia.

In those days there was no auditorium, and a few days before the concert our two-roomed school was converted into one large hall by removing eight hinged door which formed part of a dividing wall. A stage was erected at one end with empty barrels supporting the framework. Ah, the dust, the noise, the confusion, the shoving of desks against the wall, the worn green curtain with its rings, the promise of candy bags, the sagging streamers — it was lovely!

Then finally came the concert evening — a night of shuffling feet, carrying babies, Sunday shirts with porcelain collars, smothered giggles, snow-blocked roads, stockings ruined on

splintery benches, back-row hand-holding, noisy candy bags, pneumonia weather, new satin hair ribbons, anxious mothers, proud fathers and frenzied teachers.

One of these nights of chaos remains vividly (and unfortunately) in the memory of our family. Early on the program came a play in which a tall embarrassed boy forgot his lines and nervously quoted the next ones that came to his mind — which happened to be four pages further along in script. The other actors carried on from there, automatically deleting fifteen minutes from the plot and all remaining reason from the teacher's mind.

Next came the drill of little fairies in costumes of cheesecloth dyed soft blues, pinks and yellows with wings of wire and cheesecloth edged in tinsel. They were divided into two rows which alternately joined and separated, forming the usual circles, squares and stars. I had been chosen as leader of one row and was inordinately proud of this honour; my nine-year-old mind accepting this as positive proof of my natural talent, though the fact that I was short and would not hide those in line behind me had considerably more bearing in the teacher's decision.

We dressed in our fairy dresses out in the cloakroom. Now I happened to be quite susceptible to rheumatic fever and Mother always made an effort to dress me warmly. With this in mind she had just made me a pair of flannelette drawers, warm and roomy to allow for shrinkage.

There had not been time to elasticize the legs so that they did not quite qualify as bloomers.

The music began and we marched on stage. Now each row of fairies carried a long streamer for effectiveness and the drill required that we hold it high. The cheesecloth dresses were somewhat skimpy and alas! the flannelette drawers made their debut — at least three good inches of them! Holding the leading end of our streamer, I made sure I raised it as high as possible, meanwhile beaming and smiling widely. Not so my parents! Their embarrassment was not lessened by the fact that the flannelette in question was of pyjama variety in bold stripes of green and pink. A stout lady in one of the front rows of the audience motioned to me violently with her hands, but I took this to be a slur upon my performance and, determined to bring honour to the family escutcheon, I waved my arms in wilder abandon.

I dipped and raised, dipped and raised to the time of the music while the drawers coyly appeared and disappeared with maddening regularity. We fairies twirled — the drawers

(Continued on page 27)

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SEE THIS PERFECT GIFT AT YOUR LOCAL IMPLEMENT DEALER... THE PERFECT CHRISTMAS GIFT!



CUCKOO CLOCK

from GERMAN BLACK FOREST

Now only \$3.95

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Shipped Direct To You from EUROPE

This low price possible only through our unique direct import plan. Genuine German cuckoo clock with weight and pendulum movement. Excellent timekeeper. Cuckoos cheerily every quarter hour in clear pleasing voice. HAND CARVED in traditional design by famous Black Forest wood carvers. Antique walnut finish. Perfect for den, bedroom, alcove, child's room or kitchen. Shipped direct from Free Europe in export packing with strange foreign stamps. Order as gifts, too, each shipped direct. (Not more than one addressed to the same person.) Send only \$3.95 for each. No C.O.D.'s. Postman collects 15c foreign package charge which can't be prepaid. Satisfaction or money-back guarantee.

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"Packed Full of Flavor"

Alpha

EVAPORATED MILK

VITAMIN D INCREASED

P-1-57



A White Christmas For Sure



While the winter winds blow outside, youngsters can be kept busy indoors planning their very own Christmas decorations. By combining a handful of packaged soap or detergent with a little water, the youngsters have a "magic" formula which turns into snow that doesn't melt in front of the fire. All they have to do is whip the mixture with a rotary or electric beater until it stands in peaks like meringue on a lemon pie. Presto — she has the makings of fluffy snowballs that she moulds with her hands—inserting a double length of Christmas cord in the centre of each. A generous sprinkle of glitter, a few hours of drying time and the snowballs are ready to hang on the tree. A cardboard star, loed with snow and garnished with sequins, is all ready for topmost branch.

let **Javex**

do these jobs for you

To spray walls etc.
in barns, poultry
house or pig pens

... to make an effective and economical cleaning solution, use 1½ tablespoons of Javex per gallon of water. Makes an excellent dip, too.

THERE ARE PLenty OF OTHER JOBS FOR **Javex** IN THE BARN AND IN THE HOME

Buy the 64 or 128-oz sizes for greatest convenience and economy.



Javex
AT YOUR GROCER'S

(Continued from page 26)

whirled. We swayed—the drawers swayed demurely (if pink and green striped flannel-ette can be said to be demure). We lowered our streamers—the drawers sedately withdrew, but not unfortunately for long. We rose and the drawers, not to be outdone, again hove into view and capered with unrestraint while I grinned repulsively in the direction of my parents. It was a dynamic display with the coloured lights now accenting the pink, now the green. I will say this for them, the elastic was sewn

securely at the waist and at least I did not ruin the family reputation entirely by losing them altogether.

The music came to an end, and we trooped off stage. Heady with success, I rushed to the cloakroom to change, only to meet Mother with a grim and martyred look in her eye and a hurriedly borrowed pair of scissors in her hand. In the interests of propriety we could not very well remove the offending drawers, but we did prune several inches from their length to prevent any further embarrassment that evening.

agencies. They can be used for a year-end analysis of the farm business and for income tax purposes.

Farmers should keep records of their business as a unit. Keeping records and analysing separate enterprises, such as hog raising, is more complex. This is because many farm costs can not readily be charged to certain enterprises in proper proportions.

The farmer's business is a large, complex unit, rather than a combination of several small businesses. This has to be if a farmer is to find the most profitable combination of his available resources.

Provincial flowers

FOLLOWING is a list of Canada's Provincial flowers. If it is of interest to you file it away; the information was almost as hard to come by as getting plans of the Russian satellites would be.

Prince Edward Island—Yellow Lady Slipper

New Brunswick—Blue Violet

Nova Scotia—Trailing Arbutus

Quebec—Fleur de lis

Ontario—White Trillium

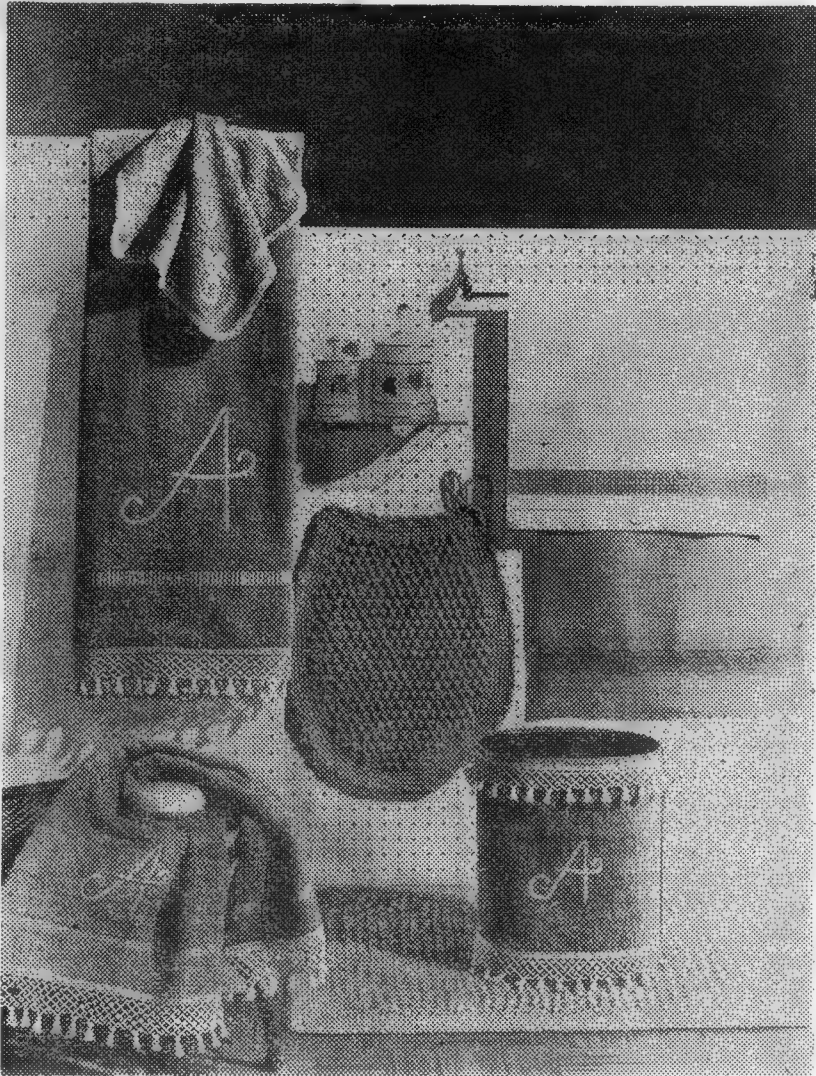
Manitoba—White Anemone

Saskatchewan—Prairie (Tiger) Lily

Alberta—Wild Rose

British Columbia—Pacific Dogwood

Unfortunately we were unable to find out the flower for Newfoundland.



Bathroom accessories make attractive Christmas gifts, especially when they are decorated with crocheted monograms. Give a matching set of bath towels, face cloth, and a hand towel zippered to fit a waste basket. Trim each piece with a lacy crocheted edging with tiny fringe. To pastel guest towels, add dainty crocheted insertions.

Keys to farm record keeping

KEEPING farm records is not difficult, according to Jake Brown, farm management specialist of the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture. To help make sure it is done regularly, a farmer should set aside a little space in his house for his business work.

Mr. Brown says it is a good idea to have a certain member of the family assigned to keep the records. Often the job is done by the wife in half an hour a day. It helps to have a special desk and filing space for record keeping.

Keep all records in one suitable account book. At the end

of the year, one or two days are needed to fully analyze how successful the business was and to fill out the income tax form.

About three or four days' work will do the bookkeeping. Included in a farmer's business records should be an inventory, all receipts and expenses, and incidental records on major personal transactions and credit arrangements. This is the minimum requirement if the records are to be useful. A map of the farm showing field arrangements and crop rotation is also very useful.

All this information can be kept in a single book. Farm account books and record systems are available from banks, commercial firms and government

'Farm Sounds'...

CONTEST WINNERS

GRAND PRIZE \$1000.00

WON BY:—

Mrs. Rosie E. Harder — Gouldtown, Sask.

2nd. PRIZE \$500.00

WON BY:—

Mrs. J. C. Grant — Dewberry, Alta.

5 Prizes of \$50.00 Each

3rd—Mr. S. H. French, Strongfield, Sask.

4th—Mr. Edward W. Hanke, Box 15, Rolling Hills, Alta.

5th—Mr. Harry L. Forbes, Box 128, Piapot, Sask.

6th—Mrs. N. Wenzel, Sibbald, Alta.

7th—Mr. Hans Stormoen, Fenn, Alta.

10 Prizes of \$25.00 Each

8th—Mr. Richard C. Mohr, Box 710, Drayton Valley, Alta.

9th—Mrs. Margaret Archer, Didsbury, Alta.

10th—Mr. Ernest Malischewski, Box 54, Kuroki, Sask.

11th—Mrs. C. Engelking, R.R. 1, Mannville, Alta.

12th—Mr. Ora Cox, Box 164, Vidora, Sask.

13th—Mrs. G. Thurston, Dapp, Alta.

14th—Mrs. Napoleon Bertrand, Box 145, St. Walburg, Sask.

15th—Mr. Edward Schatkosko, Leinam, Sask.

16th—Mrs. H. Nygaard, Northgate, Sask.

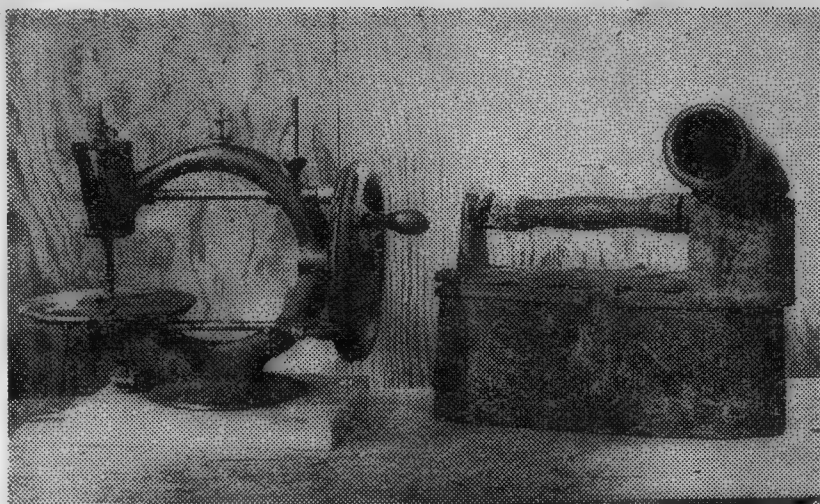
17th—Mr. Joseph Laird, Box 22, Tuffnell, Sask.

This is the order in which letters were drawn which correctly identified the sound made by an operating prairie windmill.

Farm and Ranch Review



Guess What?



Grandmother used these for that last-minute stitching and ironing the night before donning her party dress for the dance. The machine on the left was the latest word in time-saving sewing machines, and the heavy coke-burning hand iron on the right was handy for ironing all those frills in the petticoats. . . . It only weighed about 20 pounds. These are on exhibit at the Manitoba Memorial Agricultural Museum.

(Readers are reminded that all letters to the editor must be signed before being published. Names will be withheld at the request of the writer, but they must be signed before the editor will give them any consideration. Please be brief. Lack of space prevents many letters from being published in their entirety. — Editor.)

"Box Score"

Dear Sir:—

I like your "Financial Box Score" series. When I saw your first comparison as between wheat and bread I hoped you would continue it like a "This is the house that Jack built" series, with a query as to the efficiency so freely advised for farmers. . . . Those public works figures in October issue are impressive.

And the civil service!

Our sons operate the farm in N.E. Alberta, which we pioneered and built, and one of them wrote recently about a school chum of his: "(He) finished his Ag. course . . . is his own boss getting \$3,900.00 a year, \$8.00 a day living-out allowance and 13 cents a mile for his car, (a German make) which costs him 1.4 cents a mile to run.

THE NAME "LANDRACE" is merely a name and the stock live up to the breed's high reputation. That is why we have set out to make "Fergus" stand for the best in Landrace. If you want to start a Landrace herd or improve your herd by introducing better sires or dams, you cannot do better than buy Fergus Landrace Stock. Just received another importation of 3 Champion in-Pig Landrace Sows. Offer weanlings, four-months, six-months-old sows and boars, serviceable boars, guaranteed in-pig sows and gilts. Catalogue.

**FERGUS LANDRACE
SWINE FARM**

FERGUS ONTARIO

Science Now Shrinks Piles Without Pain or Discomfort

Finds Healing Substance That Relieves Pain
And Itching As It Shrinks Hemorrhoids

Toronto, Ont. (Special) — For the first time science has found a new healing substance with the ability to shrink hemorrhoids and to relieve pain and itching. Thousands have been relieved with this inexpensive substance right in the privacy of their own home without any discomfort or inconvenience.

In case after case, while gently relieving pain actual reduction (shrinkage) took place.

Most amazing of all—results were so thorough that sufferers made statements like "Piles have ceased to be a problem!"

The secret is a new healing substance (Bio-Dyne)—discovery of a famous scientific institute.

Now this new healing substance is offered in suppository or ointment form called Preparation H. Ask for it at all drug stores—money back guarantee.

Man! you have a job to do.

Thomas R. Johnson,
R.R. 2, Duncan, B.C.

Satisfied customer

Dear Sir:—

Enclosing a dollar for ten-year subscription to your valuable and wonderful paper. It is the very best and finest that is printed anywhere. I could do without the other magazines, but not the Farm and Ranch Review. It has everything to make it the finest, and I read it from cover to cover. I have a huge collection in a scrapbook of the early pioneering days, that are priceless. We came to this wild prairie in 1901.

Sincerely,
Mrs. E. P. Peterson.

New chemical

Dear Sir:—

I have been looking for something to prevent cannibalism among my chickens for a long time, and the new chemical you described in your last issue may be exactly what I want. Would you please tell me what it is called and where I could buy some.

"Arrowwood,"
Tuffnell, Saskatchewan.

(The details about the trade name and cost of the chemical were omitted because it was not a paid advertisement, and it was only included because of its general interest. However, readers may get further information about one such chemical called "thram" which is sold by S. B. Pennick & Company, 50 Church St., New York 8, N.Y. This firm may have a Canadian outlet.—Editor.

Interest-free loans

Dear Sir:—

I see your article in the paper that a drought wouldn't help. . . . I don't think any of us are hoping for dry years. But if they come there is nothing we can do about it.

I don't agree with the government giving the farmers \$3,000 advance, free of interest. I think \$1,000 free of interest would have been enough to help the small farmer and the very needy. Where the advance was over \$1,000, they should be charged 5% interest on what was over the thousand. I think the Wheat Board should change its policy and allow a quarter section farmer to sell all his grain and not dock a half-section farmer more than 5%. There soon won't be a small farmer left in the district where wheat is king. Where they are allowed to borrow without interest they will sure do it, and in many cases those that could have got along without doing it.

And there are lots of farmers that have a lot of wheat stored up who have considerable money stored up too. I think it is a wrong idea to give that much interest free.

J. A. Hamer,
Formerly Plato, Sask.

Saskatchewan highway

Dear Sir:—

A recent reader lauds the Saskatchewan government for completing their portion of the Trans-Canada Highway first.

But consider these facts — the terrain was the easiest in Canada to build over; there is so much unemployment in Saskatchewan that men were flocking for jobs to build it and they always had a pool to draw on; the few people there are in this province were over-taxed to get that highway completed, the budget figures show; less traffic and less rain were not obstacles to overcome.

Stan Obodiac,
Yorkton, Saskatchewan.

Parking meters

The two Editorials in the November issue of the Farm and Ranch Review — One-Sided Partnership and Farmers Taxed for City Shopping, plus the article, "Water and Woodland Harvest", describe only too clearly the squeeze the Farmer is in when it comes to making a living.

One can hardly deny the City of Calgary for instance, the right to lay down regulations, to govern its visitors' behaviour and clip people to the tune of \$130,000 annually, with parking meters. If regulations were not imposed, the same chaotic conditions would probably occur that quite often do occur on the farms and ranches when hordes of city and townspeople invade the countryside, with the opinions that they can go where they please and do as much damage as they please and its none of the landowner's business.

It is certainly not news that the unfortunate Farmer who has the all-important job of growing foodstuffs to keep the population alive, is quite often producing foods at below the cost of production: while his city cousin waxes fat in the prosperity boom.

Is it not about time that we farmers woke up and saw that legislation is passed to allow us to install a few "Parking Meters" of our own to take a share of the profits that pile up from the farmers' heritage — the game bonanza that is quite often bred, fed and raised on our land.

In the article, "Water and Woodland Harvest," we are told that the "good shooting" of our game birds is a multi-million-dollar business today, and highly profitable to all. It should have read, "To all but the farmer." The farmer as usual gets the old familiar "brush off" while everyone else makes the money.

The farmer should have the right to sell permits to people to enter his land for hunting purposes. Hunting on all farm lands should be by permission. It should not be necessary for a farmer to have to go to the expenses of posting his land to keep off trespassers. As the law stands today if a farmer posts his land to save his livestock and crops, he is denied the right to hunt on that land! Did anyone ever hear anything more ridiculous?

Farm revenue could be supplemented by private fish ponds. Unless it has been changed recently, one cannot buy a few fish for his pond. The government will give them to you, but the fish and their descendants promptly become the property of the general public.

"What's sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander"! When we go to the city, we place the coin in the slot. We are entitled to a few "Parking Meters" of our own.

"Farmer Subscriber."

Money in honey

THE bee industry in Manitoba is said to produce about five million pounds of honey annually.

Fifty tons of it was produced by the operation of a Swan River apiarist, George Sherlow. Mr. Sherlow's production indicates that honey producing can be big business.

Last spring, for instance, he brought in three tons of bees, estimated at ten million bees, at a cost of \$5,000.00. These were put out in 4,000 hives. At the end of the season they are destroyed by a gassing process.

Mr. Sherlow's hives are set out in 30 bee yards throughout the Swan River Valley.

Processing and disposing of the honey is a big job too. Before being ready for market the honey is removed from the trays where it has been deposited by the bees. It is then run into a honey sump and pumped into the packing room which has four 3,000-pound storage tanks. During this process it is thoroughly strained.

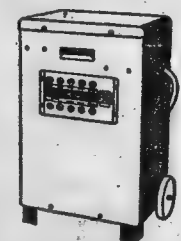
Mr. Sherlow sells about 20,000 pounds locally and the rest is shipped in 70-pound metal containers to the Manitoba Co-operative Honey Producers in Winnipeg where it is repacked and sold to the trade under a brand name.

About a 1,000 pounds of beeswax, in demand for several purposes, is recovered from the honey harvest.

Emergency power plants

KNOWING that power interruptions can be extremely costly, many ranchers and farmers have set up portable electric generator plants. These units serve for pump operation, emergency lighting and all around power in case of trouble with power lines. They, of course, can be used as well where commercial power is not available.

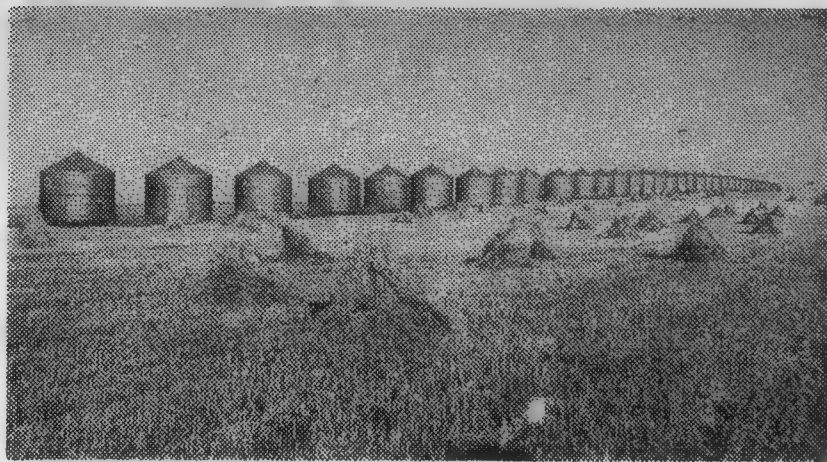
Several firms manufacture light-weight power plants with considerable capacity, and many farmers have obtained units from war surplus materials.



**THE LKS
180 AMP
WELDERS
ONLY
\$189.75**

Complete with carbon arc torch, 15-ft. welding cable, 12-ft. ground cable, 50 amp. plug and outlet, 10 lbs. electrodes, helmet and manual. FIVE-YEAR UNCONDITIONAL guarantee. LKS welder's strike and maintain the arc exceptionally easy. Try it for 30 days and if it does not prove completely satisfactory it may be returned for refund of purchase price. Complete range for all types of work, including light and heavy welding, cutting, brazing, heating and soldering. Sold from coast to coast. CSA approved. Also available a complete line of power tools. 1/4, 1/2 and 3/4 in. electric drills, 5 to 6 1/2 electric saw, etc., at very reasonable prices. For complete information and special combination offer write: L. KRUSHEL & SONS, Morden Manitoba

Non-Dividend Paying Investment



Sights like this are common in the prairie provinces, especially in Saskatchewan. Wheat has forced many a farmer off his farm into the nearest town because his house and barn have been filled with it. Some towns have even lost their Curling Rinks, which are filled to the roof with grain, as is every other available building. And yet the western farmer's solution to his trouble, according to many arm-chair experts, is to produce more efficiently.

Search for new barley

MORE barley acreage in central Alberta has meant more diseases and more headaches for the plant pathologists.

One of the worst of these — barley scale — is being given serious attention, and is resulting in co-operation between the Lethbridge Experimental Station, University plant science experts and Lacombe Experimental Farm plant breeders, to produce resistant varieties of barley.

A great deal of basic work must be done before any real headway can be made, and this is complicated by the fact that present varieties that show any promise of resistance to scald, have little else to recommend them. High quality, earliness, lodging resistance and other desirable characteristics cannot be sacrificed in the search for scald resistance.

Malting quality is also important, and many farmers want barley varieties that can be used both for feed and malting. Unfortunately there is at present, nothing of malting quality resistant to scald. Development of need breeds is a slow process involving crossing and re-crossing, of first building parental stock and then continuously selecting from progeny. In this early work scald resistant parents are being crossed with early maturing parents to combine the two characteristics. With earliness and scald resistance combined attention will be turned to other requirements.

To date, barley diseases have not been considered too important, but with increased acreages and continued cropping to barley there is a build-up of disease in the soil and a carry-over of the disease from year to year. Rotation of crops is not only sound conservation and soil improvement practice, but it continues to be a useful weapon against many crop diseases.

In answering advertisements, mention The Farm and Ranch Review. It is helpful.

Oats — 128.8 bu/acre

WHAT is believed to be the oldest experiment of its kind in the world, a ten-year crop rotation plan is now entering its 49th year at the Lethbridge Experimental Farm.

Rotation "U", as it is called, has resulted in consistently high average yields of wheat, oats and barley on fertile, irrigated land, and although utilizing flood irrigation for a full 48 years, no salinity problem has been experienced.

Laid down in 1910 on one-acre plots, the ten-year sequence has been alfalfa for six years, and one year each of wheat, oats, barley and sugar beets. The rotation receives 15 tons of manure per acre twice in ten years, and one-half of each plot receives 100 pounds of ammonium phosphate (11-48-0) in three years of the cycle. Cereal yields in this rotation averaged 58.1 bushels per acre for wheat, 104.3 bushels for oats, and 75.2 bushels for barley on the fertilized half plots, and 53.3 bushels, 96.9 bushels and 66.2 bushels respectively on the unfertilized land. This year Harlan oats in this rotation produced a record yield of 128.8 bushels per acre on the unfertilized land:

RUPTURE RELIEF

Write today for details British Rupture Support recommended by doctors. Free trial offer. No matter how heavy your work—the Bensley will hold your rupture so comfortably you'll hardly know you're wearing it. Bensley's, Dept. FR, 60 Front Street West, Toronto.

If You're TIRED ALL THE TIME

Everybody gets a bit run-down now and then, tired-out, heavy-headed, and maybe bothered by backaches. Perhaps nothing seriously wrong, just a temporary toxic condition caused by excess acids and wastes. That's the time to take Dodd's Kidney Pills. Dodd's stimulate the kidneys, and so help restore their normal action of removing excess acids and wastes. Then you feel better, sleep better, work better. Get Dodd's Kidney Pills now. Look for the blue box with the red band at all druggists. You can depend on Dodd's. 52

Free Book on Arthritis And Rheumatism

HOW TO AVOID CRIPPLING DEFORMITIES

An amazing newly enlarged 36-page book entitled "Arthritis-Rheumatism" will be sent free to anyone who will write for it.

It reveals why drugs and medicines give only temporary relief and fail to remove the causes of the trouble; explains a specialized non-surgical, non-medical treatment which has proven successful since 1910.

You incur no obligation in sending for this instructive book. It may be the means of saving you years of untold misery. Write today to The Ball Clinic, Dept. 506 Excelsior Springs, Missouri.



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Persuasive Watts

DIAL 1270

MEDICINE HAT, ALBERTA

Ventilate that barn

EARLY fall cold snaps remind us that barn ventilation is important. This includes hog barns, poultry houses and dairy barns. Improper ventilation and insulation results in foul air and condensation on walls and ceilings... both leading to disease and lower production.

Extension engineers of the Alberta Department of Agriculture state that proper insulation is essential, and a vapor barrier such as asphalt coated paper, waxed paper or polyethylene film should be placed between the inside sheathing and the insulation to prevent water vapor from passing into the insulation itself. They suggest about three inches of rock wool, fibre-glass or vermiculite, or their equivalent, and for ceiling insulation about four inches of these or six inches of shavings.

The two basic ventilation systems are forced air or fan and

natural draft. Natural draft allows the warm, foul air to escape through an insulated exhaust which extends through the attic or loft and up past the ridge board. In the forced-air system an electric fan sends the foul air out the wall. Both systems are good, but both need adequate air inlets spaced at intervals along the walls at ceiling height. Fan units can automatically ventilate, but natural draft systems require constant adjustment.

HOG PROFITS!

Act now to begin up-grading your herd. Obtain quicker feed conversion, more Grade A Premiums and a higher profit on your investment by cross-breeding with pure-bred Davern Landrace boars. Registered Davern Landrace gilts and boars available. Write today for information.

DAVERN FARMS LTD.
Box 386, — Hamilton Ont.

Solution to Crossword Puzzle

S	A	G	M	O	L	T	S	P	O	S	E	A	P	P	A	L	L		
O	L	A	A	W	A	R	E	A	R	I	S	E	N	E	E	D	L	E	S
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BATTER / WEAK? DEAD? RUN DOWN? Easy starting better lights, longer life after "Battery-Reviver" treatment. Price, \$1.50 (6 to 12-volt battery); 3 packages, \$3.50; treatment for 32-volt light plant, \$10.00. Guaranteed satisfaction. Western Distributors, Box 24BR, Regina, Sask.

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EARN MORE! Bookkeeping, Salesmanship, Shorthand, Typewriting, etc. Lessons, 50¢. Ask for free circular No. 34. Canadian Correspondence Courses, 1290 Bay Street, Toronto.

EARN GOOD PAY MAILING POST CARDS. Write Standard Sales Service, Mountain View, FRR-1, Oklahoma, U.S.A.

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AUCTIONEERING CAN BE FOR YOU. Write for information. Western College of Auctioneering, Box 1458-FR, Billings, Mont.

FARMS FOR SALE

IDEAL STOCK RANCH — Approximately 820 acres in the Camrose District, Alberta. For further information please write The Canada Permanent Trust Company, 10126 100 Street, Edmonton, Alberta.

FOR SALE

MINNEAPOLIS GUN-TYPE FURNACE, OIL BURNER with thermostat and 100-gal. tank; three years old. Phone 895677. Mrs. E. G. Kinsella, 901 - 32nd Ave N.W., Calgary, Alberta.

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NUTRIA — Blue Castors. Very reasonable prices. Enquiries invited. Member of Canadian Nutria Breeders' Association. J. Wright, Calgary Nutria Ranch, R.R. No. 2, Calgary.

HELP WANTED

PLEASANT WAY TO EARN AS A neighborhood Representative for Avon Cosmetics. Openings for capable, mature women. We train you to succeed. Box No. 32, Farm and Ranch Review, Calgary, Alberta.

HOUSEWIVES — Does present income fall short of your needs? Add extra dollars to the family income by becoming an Avon Representative today. Box No. 32, Farm and Ranch Review, Calgary, Alberta.

HOBBIES

WANTED! OLD COINS! TOKENS! Bills! Canada and U.S.A. List your coins denomination, year, condition, or send .50c for price list. Reliable Agency, Box 5-CR, Regina, Sask.

LADIES! NEW IMPROVED DUPREE PILLS! Help relieve pain, etc., associated with monthly periods. \$3.00 or (Triple strength). Cotes pills, \$5.00. Airmailed. Western Distributors, Box 24AR, Regina.

ADULTS! SEND 10c FOR THE WORLD'S funniest joke novelty cards. Western Distributors, Box 24FR, Regina.

LIVESTOCK

ADAMS, WOOD & WEILLER, LTD., livestock Commission Agents, Alberta Stockyards, Calgary. Phones: 5-5121; Nights: CHery 4-8075; CHery 4-2650.

YOUR LIVESTOCK COMMISSION AGENT, PAUL & MacDONALD, prompt, efficient service. Office telephone 5-5301; Residence CHery 4-0485; 87-1738, Calgary, Alberta.

PARSLOW & DENOON, Stockyard, Calgary, Alberta, the oldest Livestock Commission Merchants in Alberta. Established since 1911. Office 5-6058, 5-5755; Night CHery 4-1651, CHery 4-2848.

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

SPECIAL CLEARANCE PRICES—Limited number only. English Made spring balance: 50 lbs., \$1.25; 100 lbs., \$3.45 post-paid. 5½" and 9" solid brass face. These are real handy farm balances at a good price, which cannot be repeated. Money-back guarantee. Canadian Organic Developments Ltd., Burns Building, Calgary.

PERSONAL

IF YOU LIKE PEOPLE, enjoy making friends and want to earn money, contact your Avon Manager. Box No. 32, Farm and Ranch Review, Calgary, Alberta.

REINCARNATION — Thou has made endless, such is thy pleasure. This frail vessel thou emptiest again and again and fillest it with fresh life. Rabindranath Tagore.

POEMS SET TO MUSIC by Professional Composer-Arranger. Songs Copyrighted. Free examination. Send Poems to Harmonist, Box 40, (R) Erindale, Ontario.

ADULTS — "FREE INTERESTING DISCUSSION on planned parenthood, conception control, marriage education. Write to Western Universal Sales, Box 390, Varsity View, Manitoba.

"IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO LOVE" — Frank, Revealing, New Book (191 pages). Assures love, happiness and vital sex-life. Plus Birth Control booklet Free if you order now! Send 50c today! Western Distributors, Box 24GVR, Regina, Sask.

BIBLE REVEALS THE TIME OF THE END. Exact Year, Month, and Day sent free. Write: HARVEST, Jefferson City, Mo., U.S.A.

AUTHORS INVITED SUBMIT MSS, all types (including Poems) for book publication. Reasonable terms. Stockwell Ltd., Ilfracombe, England. (Estd. 1898).

FOR FUN AND GOOD EARNINGS sell Avon Cosmetics. Any Avon Representative will tell you; full or part time. It's profitable. Box No. 32, Farm and Ranch Review, Calgary, Alberta.

STAMPS

FREE PACKET OF BRITISH EMPIRE STAMPS to applicants for quality British Empire stamps on approval at lowest prices. Premall Stamp Co., Station B, Winnipeg, Man.

STAMMERING

STAMMERING CORRECTED — Helpful booklet gives full information. Free copy. Write: Wm. Dennison, 553-R Sherbourne, Toronto.

TOBACCO

CIGARETTES from Holland, Cuban, Egypt, Italy, Switzerland, etc., etc. Samples on request. Germain Bourassa, Box 81, St. Barnabe North, Que.

New water saver

WATER preservation in hot weather may be easier soon. A new product will be on the market shortly which will greatly reduce evaporation losses on all forms of impounded water. This is a harmless product of processed animal tallow which when properly applied forms a clear film over water one ten-thousandth of an inch thick. The product does not affect livestock, wildlife, people or crops. Water losses, in research, have been cut from 45 to 60 per cent.



"I'VE HAD LOTS OF EXPERIENCE — THREE DAYS WITH MR. FINLEY, A WEEK WITH GOLDEN DAIRY FARM, TWO DAYS WITH JED BROWN, ONE HOUR WITH VALLEY FARM AND

Fire blight in Fruit trees

A BACTERIAL disease of apple, pear, hawthorn trees (and other related plants) known as Fire Blight, has taken the pleasure out of backyard fruit growing and is responsible for serious losses to commercial orchards across Canada. Although control is difficult, Dr. W. A. F. Hagborg, of the Plant Pathology Laboratory, Science Service, Winnipeg, Manitoba, says it should be possible to avoid intensive damage, especially so where fruit trees are grown on a small scale. A pamphlet outlining various aspects of this disease with emphasis on control measures has recently been published by Dr. Hagborg and is available at the Plant Pathology Laboratory, Canada Department of Agriculture, University of Manitoba, Fort Garry, Manitoba.

Fruit trees suffering from fire blight look as though they were scorched by fire. Blossoms, fresh twigs and leaf growth become blighted and turn a brownish colour. In larger branches and trunks the spread of infection under the bark may develop into cankers. As growth slows down during summer the infected bark cracks around the edges of infected areas and cankers stop developing.

Soil analysis

MANY farmers do not realize what their soils lack and consequently their yields are not as high nor as valuable as they might be. The information needed can be obtained from a soil analysis available from any provincial department of agriculture. If such a test is desired it is important to take the soil sample correctly and to forward it in a suitable container. Contact your district agriculturist, or write your provincial government department of agriculture, about the proper procedure if you are contemplating a soil analysis of your farm.

Recommendations advising the necessary farm practices, the need of fertilizers, etc., to correct any deficiency of your soil will be given.

Western agriculture needs an independent voice. The Farm and Ranch Review fills the bill.



Flax prospects

THE Canadian Flax Institute pondering whether Canada has over expanded in flax acreage has this to say: "Less than 10 years ago Canada was importing flax to meet domestic requirements. As a result a million-acre goal was set as the area estimated necessary to give Canada its domestic flax needs. Since that time our acreage has climbed to over 3 million acres and we still continue to be free of surpluses. It would be foolish to make statements as to what the flax future will be. But the overseas demand still remains fairly strong and we might well, therefore, consider an acreage similar to this year's."



PRINGLE announces a
New Program for 1958

PROFIT-PROVEN POULTRY

only will be hatched at

PRINGLE'S

"H & N" NICK-CHICK LEGHORNS
Definitely tops as profitable egg producers.

NICHOL'S MEAT STRAIN CHICKS

Unexcelled in meat production. Specially suited to Western Canadian farm conditions when meat production is the first consideration.

PARMENTER REDS

A profit-proven breed — first of all the brown egg layers.

PARLAY 333 CROSSBREDS

Best of all the light-heavy cross-breeds.

LIGHT SUSSEX

A popular farm flock breed.

HART-SCHNEIDER Strain B B B TURKEY POULTS

One of the oldest and best known strains in California and Oregon.

Write today for full particulars on
PRINGLE'S PROFIT-PROVEN POULTRY PROGRAMME.

PRINGLE

Electric Hatcheries

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EDMONTON and CHILLIWACK, B.C.

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CALGARY

Where Alberta ... GETS ITS NEWS

More Local News — More National News
More International News

... All The News

NEWS TIMES*

M O R N I N G	6:00	SPORTSCASTS
	6:30	
	7:00	
	7:30	
	8:00 (Complete Round-up)	
	8:30	
	9:00	
	10:00	
	11:00	
	11:55	
A F T E R N O O N	12:30 (Complete Round-up)	SUNDAY NEWS
	2:00	
	3:00	
	4:00	
	5:00	
	6:00 a.m.	
	7:00 a.m.	
	10:00 a.m.	
	1:00 p.m. (Complete Round-up)	
	6:00 p.m.	
E V E N I N G	6:00	
	7:00	
	7:55	
	10:00 (Complete Round-up)	
	12:00 Midnite	

★ AND EVERY HOUR ON THE HOUR ALL NIGHT LONG

KEEP NEAR YOUR RADIO FOR REFERENCE

CFCN

CALGARY

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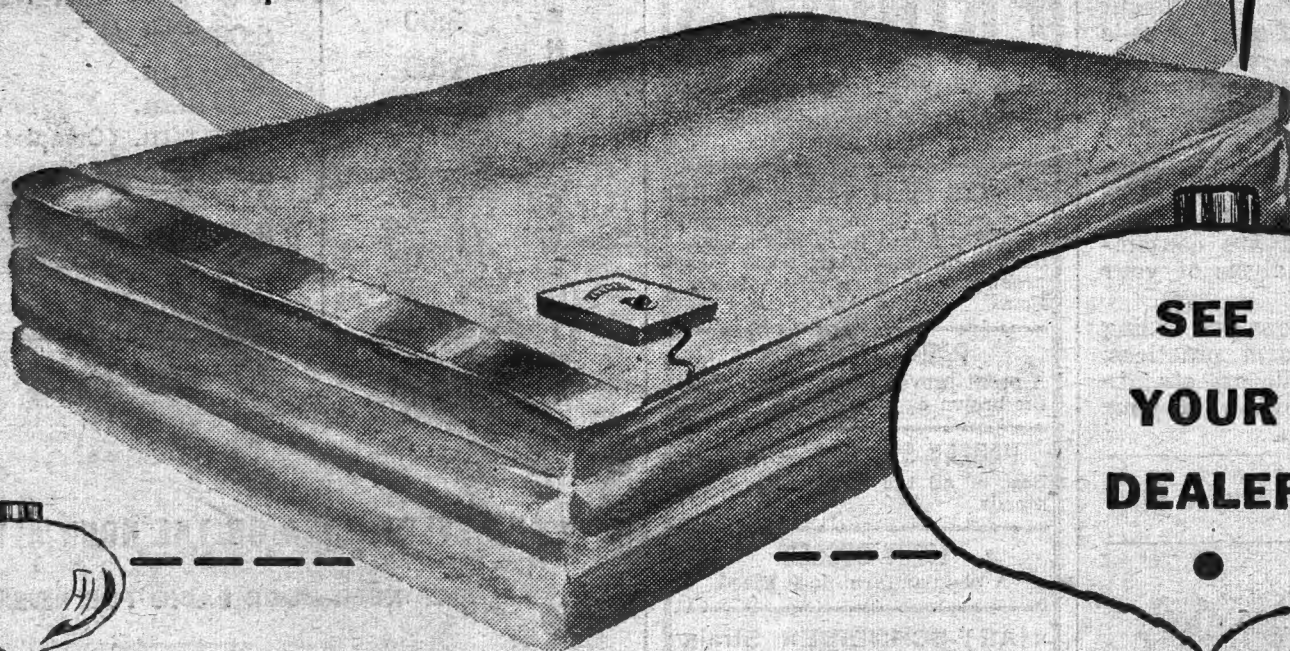
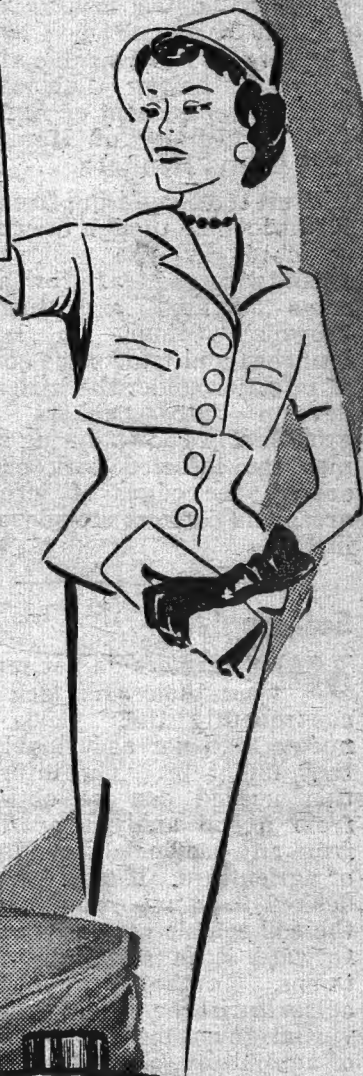
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OF YOUR LIFE
WITH AN

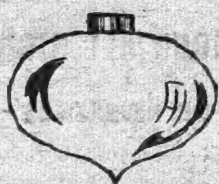
ELECTRIC BLANKET

Give an Electric Blanket to the one you love most.
Electrical gifts keep on giving.
Shop for Christmas NOW!

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DEALER



CALGARY POWER LTD.

CANADIAN UTILITIES LIMITED

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UNIVERSITATIS
ALBERTENSIS

Season's Greeting

The delegates, directors and Wheat Pool, extends to all sincerest wishes Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Alberta Wheat Pool's Record of Progress

REVIEW OF OPERATIONS FOR THE YEAR ENDING JULY 31, 1957

ELEVATOR OPERATING RESULTS—

Gross operating earnings for season 1956-57	\$3,313,676
Less: Depreciation on Buildings and Equipment	2,020,861
Net earnings	\$1,292,815

ELEVATOR OPERATIONS—

Operated 533 country elevators and terminal at Vancouver. Port Arthur terminal was operated under agreement with Manitoba Pool Elevators.

GRAIN HANDLINGS—

Handled 61,457,190 bushels of grain received from producers compared with 54,220,106 bushels in the previous year. This represents approximately 37 per cent of the total grain marketed through country elevators in the province of Alberta in 1956-57.

RESERVE PURCHASES—

Completed purchases in full from estates of deceased members, members who have ceased farming and members 75 years of age or over. These purchases totalled \$394,455.

PATRONAGE DIVIDENDS—

Distributed \$746,501 as patronage dividends for the year 1955-56 involving a cash distribution of \$331,772 and reserve credits of \$414,729.

STORAGE FACILITIES—

Increased available storage space in country elevators by over three-quarters of a million bushels.

NEW MEMBERS—

During the year 1,818 new members joined the Alberta Wheat Pool, bringing the total to 48,589.

JUNIOR 4-H CLUBS—

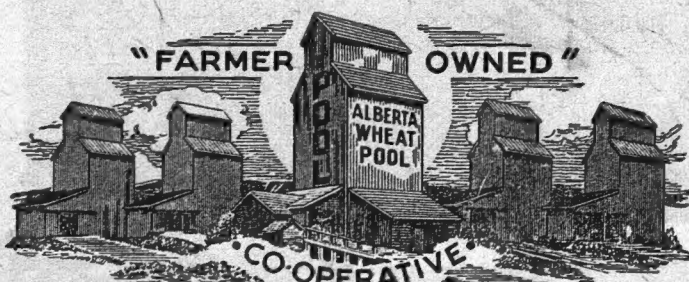
Sponsored 46 Junior Wheat Clubs having a total membership of 632 and 59 Girls' Garden Clubs with a membership of 622. These are under the direction of the Alberta Department of Agriculture.

FINANCIAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS FROM EARNINGS, 1923 to 1957—

Cash patronage dividends	\$ 7,611,872
Reserve purchases	10,734,248
1929 overpayment paid in full	5,649,000
Interest on 1929 overpayment	3,332,924
Income taxes paid	1,976,920
Investment in fixed assets	\$24,401,687
Less: Reserves originally contributed by members	8,467,830 15,933,857
Acquired working capital	8,998,392
	\$54,237,213

PATRONAGE DIVIDENDS—

In addition to cash payments of \$7,611,872, member patrons have received up to and including 1955-56, \$12,266,419 in Reserve Credits, making a total distribution of \$19,878,291 as patronage dividends out of earnings.



"It's ALBERTA POOL ELEVATORS FOR ALBERTA FARMERS"

PRICES ^{say} RAIL GRADE PLEASE!

The Central Alberta Dairy Pool and Poultry Pool firmly believes that it is in the best interests of the Producer to encourage the rail grading of poultry :—

because...

A live-weight price can only be based on average or lower quality of poultry because fleshing and finish cannot be accurately determined until the feathers are off and the bird chilled in a low temperature room.

Producers are vitally interested in raising and feeding and marketing their poultry at a price that will show some profit over cost of production. This can only be done by the marketing of well-fleshed and properly-finished poultry at the proper time and payment should not be accepted then on weight only, but at dressed grade at the highest price for its grade.

remember...

Only on dressed (Rail) grade you receive highest prices for your poultry which qualifies for the higher grades at the C. A. D. Pool plants.

enquire...

at the nearest branch of the C. A. D. Pool for buying dates and prices.

a final word...

Do not market Turkeys until they carry good flesh and fat, irrespective of their weight or size.

MAKE SURE BEFORE YOU SHIP

*A Happy Xmas and a Prosperous
New Year to all
from the Directors, Management and Staff
of the
Central Alberta Dairy Pool*

Central Alberta Dairy Pool

"Owned by those it serves"

with branches throughout Central Alberta and in the south
at Calgary, Brooks and Lethbridge.